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Day Use of National Forest Series:
The Cleveland National Forest
Southern California Planning Places, 2002

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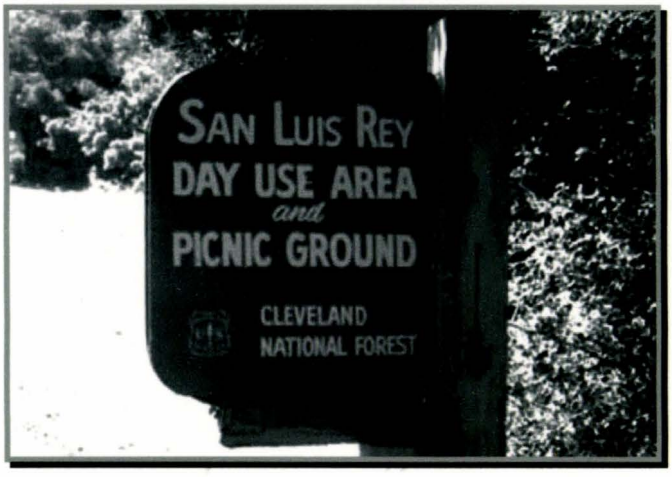

Deborah J. Chavez, Ph.D.
David D. Olson, M.S.
Pacific Southwest Research Station
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Executive Summary

It is important to examine use of recreation sites and get visitor points of view about those sites. Of particular importance are day use sites, which receive a large amount of use but little research emphasis. The following reports results from a day use visitor contact study conducted on the Cleveland National Forest in summer 2002. The survey is a replication of the day use studies conducted on National Forests in southern California from 1992-94, 2000-01. The purpose was to provide to managers information based on day use visitor opinions. Topics addressed included visitor characteristics, visitation patterns, activity patterns, interpretation, communication and information patterns, importance of site attributes and other visitor perceptions. We also sought to conduct comparisons among specific subgroups (e.g., age, education).

Day use sites were randomly selected for inclusion in the study and dates of weekend data collection were randomly selected throughout the spring and summer months. Data were collected from 249 recreationists.

Overall results indicate that Cleveland National Forest visitors were white, an average 40 years of age, an average 15 years of education with annual household incomes over $60,000. Most day use visitors were born in the U.S. Most of the visitors were with family and friends and planned to stay one to three hours. Most were repeat visitors and had traveled an average an hour-and-a-half to get to the site contacted. Repeat visitors had been returning to the day use sites an average nine years. These visitors usually engaged in day hikes and picnics/barbecues while on the forest. Many reported their usual activities to be camping, sightseeing, driving for pleasure, watching wildlife, off-highway vehicle rides, and mountain bike rides. Additionally, day hiking was reported as a favorite activity and one that visitors engaged in often. Day use visitors reported an interest in informational talks on animals and their habitat. They heard about the day use sites from informal or word-of-mouth sources such as family and friends. On-site preferences for information sources include brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site, signs along the road, and postings on bulletin boards. The kinds of things they would most like to get information about include camping in the area, hiking in the area, best times to visit the area to avoid crowds, and location of day hike trails. They preferred somewhat challenging trails that take a few hours to walk. The visitors were most bothered by litter along the road, litter at picnic sites, drawings or graffiti on natural structures, carving messages on trees, and drawings or graffiti on man-made structures. Most held positive feelings regarding their trip and plan to tell other people

about the trip, plan to return, and had a great recreation experience. Important subgroup differences were noted for repeat visitations (e.g., visit many places and plan to return), age (e.g., more things tend to bother older visitors), and education (e.g., those with a college diploma tend to be day hikers and prefer somewhat challenging trails).

Planning places are an important feature of forest planning in Southern California. Data was collected at several planning places and four of these are included in separate chapters in this report.

Managers of the Cleveland National Forest can use the results of this report in several ways. Site management and site planning are the key uses of the results from the survey of day users of the Forest. The demographics suggest a mostly white and English speaking and reading clientele, suggesting a focus on English language communications. Of course, multiple languages in communications will enhance outreach to those groups who may be underrepresented at day use sites. There is a great deal of interest in many topics including information about additional activities on the Forest and features about the Forest. It appears that brochures, information on bulletin boards and signs along the road can offer a variety of information. The data also suggest that visitors prefer a fair amount of development of sites. Some of the sites are already developed but some could be developed further to provide trashcans, water faucets, picnic tables, parking areas, and fire pits/rings. Note though that not all sites are appropriate for these kinds of development. The data also suggest that it is important to visitors that sites are clear of litter and free of graffiti. This is often difficult to do, but day use visitors appreciate clean areas. Finally, visitors plan to return to the site and to tell other people about the site which suggests planning for additional visitation, and potentially visitation by new visitors, making it important to evaluate the differences between first time and repeat visitors, including age-related considerations.

Managers of Planning Places can similarly use the data specific to their Planning Places based on the results reported in these chapters.

Chapter 1 Day Use on the Cleveland National Forest

Background

The social environment for many outdoor recreation areas has been changing. In some states it is the racial/ethnic makeup that is changing. In other states the changes might be in age, education, income, family composition or some other variable or set of variables. It is likely that individuals who belong to these changing groups bring a set of values and behaviors to public lands that differ from that of "traditional" users, and perhaps, land managers. These changes may be felt the strongest in resource programs dealing with visitor use such as recreation, cultural resources, and lands (Chavez 2001). Understanding visitor demographics and values is critical to managing outdoor recreation sites.

It is important to examine use of recreation sites and get visitor points of view about those sites. Of particular importance are day use sites, which receive a large amount of use but little research emphasis. Managers of day use sites can better manage with detailed information about visitor demographics, visitation patterns, visitor communication patterns and visitor preferences.

The following reports results from a day use visitor contact survey conducted on the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) in spring and summer 2002. The survey is a replication of the day use surveys conducted on National Forests in southern California from 1992-94, 2000-01 (Chavez & Mainieri 1995; Chavez, McCollum & Olson 2002; Chavez, Winter & Mainieri 1995a; Chavez Winter & Mainieri 1995b). The purpose of the current study was to investigate day use recreation on the forest and use this year's data as a baseline to provide detailed user information for site managers and to use for future comparison. The primary objectives were to:

(1) Gain a stronger understanding of recreation visitor characteristics,

(2) Report visitation patterns,

(3) Determine on-site activities,

(4) Determine interpretation, communication & information patterns,

(5) Report on the relative importance of site attributes,

(6) Report other visitor perceptions, and

(7) Make comparisons among specific subgroups for objectives 1 – 6.

The Cleveland National Forest includes three distinct mountain ranges adjoining the urbanized lowlands of Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties. In 2000, the combined population of these counties was more than seven million. Los Angeles County, with a population of more than 9 1/2 million people, is within an hour's drive of the northern part of the Forest. More than 420,000 acres in size, the Cleveland National Forest encompasses much of the Santa Ana, Palomar, and Laguna Mountains. Elevations range from 400 to 6,140 feet. Chaparral is the most abundant vegetation type, covering about 88 percent of Forest lands.

The Cleveland National Forest has three Ranger Districts: Descanso, Palomar and Trabuco. The San Mateo Canyon Wilderness is on the Trabuco Ranger District. There are developed recreation complexes at Black Star Canyon, Blue Jay, El Cariso, Fry Creek Observatory, Laguna Mountain, San Juan Canyon, and Trabuco Canyon. The Forest's developed recreation facilities can accommodate about 4,200 persons at one time. These facilities include five picnic areas, 16 family campgrounds, seven group campgrounds, and two information stations. The Forest has experienced great demand for general forest or non-facility based recreation opportunities, particularly for hiking and horseback riding.

Methods

The day use survey instrument was initially developed for use on urban National Forests in 1992. The Office of Management and Budget approved the current instrument (expired October 2002, see Appendix A). The instrument closely follows the questions asked of day use visitors since 1992.

A student team from San Diego State University, led by Dr. Vinod Sasidharan, collected data under a cooperative agreement with the Pacific Southwest Research Station. The research was conducted under the auspices of the OMB approval as well as a study plan filed with PSW.

Dates of data collection were randomly selected throughout the spring and summer months 2002. Data were collected from 249 recreationists at day use sites on weekend days from April 20th to July 28th 2002. About half the data collection days were on Saturday and half were on Sunday, though we also collected data on Memorial Day. The survey instruments were available in English and Spanish.

Day use sites were also randomly selected from a list provided by the Forest of developed picnic areas, general day use areas, and trailhead sites. The following recreation sites were selected: Ortega Falls dispersed trails, Bear Valley Staging Area, Laguna Mountain Visitor Center, Meadow Kiosk/Sunset Trail Area, Noble Canyon Trailhead, Penny Pines Trailhead, Pioneer Mail Picnic Area, Storm Canyon Vista Overlook, Bear Valley Staging Area, Four Corners Trailhead (Corral Canyon Off-Highway Vehicle), Maple Springs Road Trailhead /dispersed area, San Luis Rey Picnic Area, Horse Thief Trailhead, Pine Creek Trailhead, Tenaja Trailhead, and Wildomar Off-Highway Vehicle Staging Area. The site types included: trailhead (n = 117); off-highway vehicle staging area (n = 46); picnic area (n = 36); vista, overlook, observatory, view point (n = 21); visitor center, information station, interpretive site (n = 18); and day use area (n = 11).

All visitors (age 18 or over) on-site were asked for their voluntary participation in the survey. Visitors were assured confidentiality of their responses. A total of 390 adults were contacted, and of those contacted 249 agreed to fill out questionnaires (64%). Usual reasons for not participating in the research process were: "preparing for hike", "didn't want to take the time", or "just stopped for information".

The "Result Section" presents frequencies and means from all data sites collected on the Cleveland National Forest, additional chapters present those results from the Southern California Planning Places (SCPP) with visitor representation of 25 questionnaires or more (see Table 1). There are a total of eleven "Planning Places" located within the Forest which are organized by distinctive ecological and social characteristics.[1] Each section addresses objectives 1-6 from this report. The SCPP sections should be viewed with caution. Additionally, the sample sizes are small, though the dates and sites were randomly selected, they were selected as part of the larger study.

Table 1. Results Reported for the Southern California Planning Places by Day Use Sites

Southern California Planning Place	Day Use Site	Frequency
Elsinore	Ortega Falls dispersed trails	15
	Tenaja TH	1
	Wildomar OHV Staging Area	21
	Total	**37**
Laguna	Laguna Mountain Visitor Center	18
	Meadow Kiosk/Sunset Trail Area	10
	Penny Pines TH	41
	Pioneer Mail PA (Laguna Rec Area)	11
	Storm Canyon Vista Overlook	21
	Total	**101**
Palomar Mountain	San Luis Rey PA	**25**
Interstate 8 Corridor	Bear Valley Staging Area	10
	Noble Canyon TH	16
	Pine Creek TH (Pine Creek Wild)	21
	Total	**47**

A few variables were created and used for the analyses so that comparisons could be made between specific subgroups. These include (1) first-time visitors (n = 84) versus repeat visitors (n = 161); (2) age using 39 as the median, respondents under age 40 (n = 120) and respondents age 40

[1] Note: In southern California, the four national forests (the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres and San Bernardino) are guided by management plans called "Forest Plans." The last Forest Plans for the four Forests were developed in the late 1980s. By law, National Forests must revise their plans every fifteen years. Currently, the Forests are in the process of updating their plans. The future plans will organize the four forests into geographic areas, or "planning places", based on similarities in ecology and public uses across southern California. Refer to Appendix B for Internal Review Maps.

or older (n = 119); and (3) education experience of those without a college diploma (n = 112) and those with a college diploma (n = 124).

Results

Responses are provided in the form of percentages. Some means, or averages, are also provided when appropriate. However, both the mean and the median (middle value of a list) may give useful information. Appendix C provides a table with mean, median, mode, range, and quarter percentiles. Statistics are reported for all 249 respondents unless noted otherwise.

Visitor Characteristics

Among day use site visitors, approximately two-thirds were male (66%) and a third female (34%). Respondents' age ranged from 18 to 86 years, with an average age of 40 years (n = 239; SD = 12.38). On average, survey respondents had 15 years of education (n = 246; SD = 2.75). Approximately 13 percent of visitors had a high school education, more than half said they had some college education or a degree (57%), while more than one-quarter of the visitors had done graduate work (26%).

White (71%) were the largest racial/ethnic group of those visitors surveyed, followed by Mexican (9%) and American Indian or Alaskan Native (4%). There were 12 percent who described themselves as Hispanic/Latino. English was spoken (86%) and read (90%) most of the time by the majority of the visitors surveyed.

Most of the visitors surveyed indicated they were born in the United States (82%) and have resided in the United States all their lives (80%). Of those who have lived elsewhere (n = 39), the median amount of time lived in the U.S. was 17 years.

Household income was skewed, over half of visitors (51%) reported an annual household income of $60,000 or more (see Fig. 1), with almost three in ten reporting annual household incomes over $90,000.

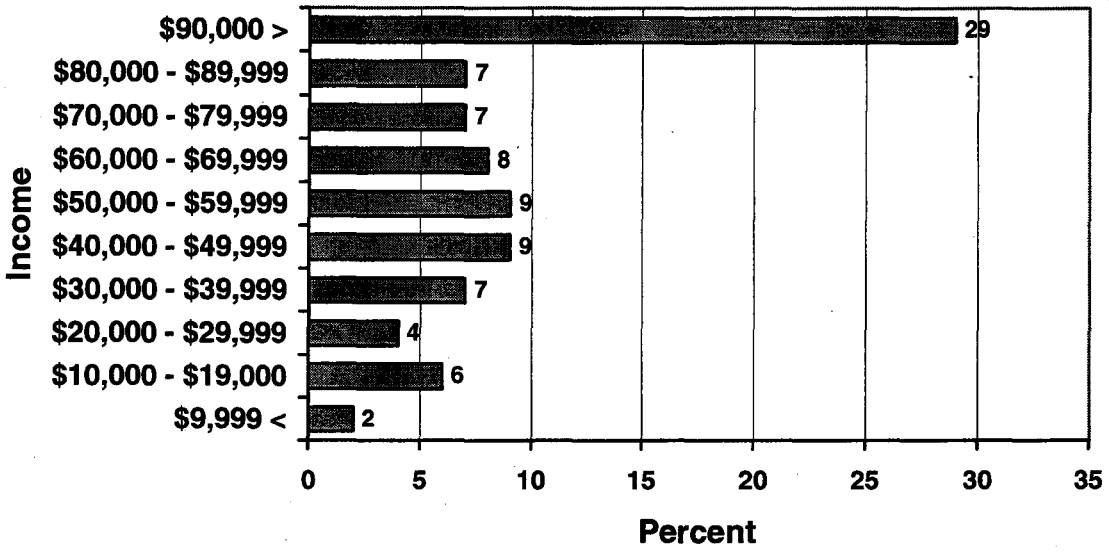

Figure 1. Annual household income (n = 249)

The majority of day use visitors were recreating with family members (45%) and friends (48%). Some respondents were recreating alone (10%) and others were with an organized group (7%).

Respondents were also asked how long a visit they would have. Seven percent planned to stay less than one hour. Almost half of the visitors (48%) planned a one to three hour visit, one-third (32%) planned four to six hour visits, and ten percent planned to stay more than six hours (see Fig. 2).

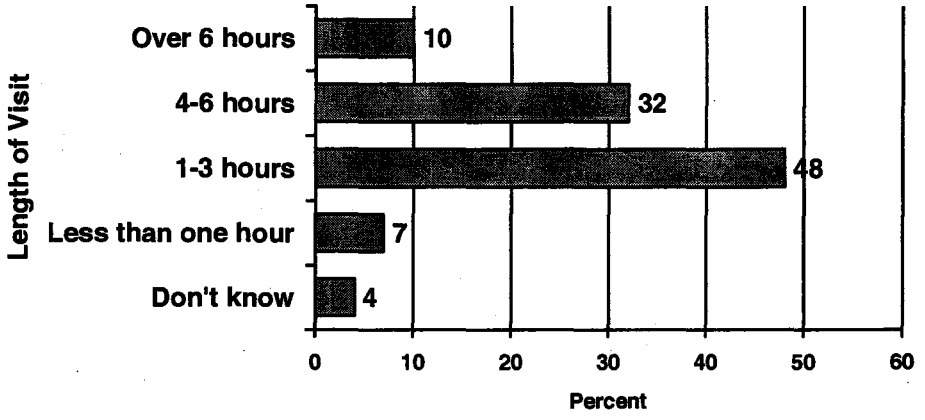

Figure 2. Length of visit (n = 249)

Visitation Patterns

Almost two-thirds of the day use visitors were repeat visitors (65%); that is, they had been to the site before. Of repeat visitors, most had visited a median three times in the past 12 months (n = 141, range = 52) and had been coming to this site for a median of five years (n = 129). Respondents 40 years of age and older had been coming to this site for about 11.4 years compared to respondents 39 and younger (6.0 years, $t(108) = -3.40$, $p<0.001$).

More than three in four (76%) day use visitors were planning to return to the site again in the next 12 months; another 15 percent were unsure of their plans; while 7 percent had no plans to return in the next 12 months. It's more likely that repeat visitors (97%) plan to return to the site they were visiting within the 12 months than first time visitors (80%, $p = 0.000$).

Over two-thirds of the day use visitors (68%) had visited *other* National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months and these people had made a median five visits (n = 144). About a quarter of the visitors (24%) had not visited other Forest day use sites, and 9 percent were unsure.

It's more likely that repeat visitors (79%) said they had visited other national forest day use areas within the 12 months than first time visitors (64%, $p = 0.014$). Repeat visitors also visited more national forest day use sites (11.5 sites) in the past year than did first time visitors (4.6 sites, $t(131) = -4.73$, $p<0.000$).

While fewer than half of the day use visitors traveled less than an hour to get to the recreation site (45%), the other half traveled an average of an hour-and-a-half to get to the site ($n = 93$; $SD = 0.65$).

Visitor Activities On-site

A series of four questions addressed activity patterns. Figure 3 indicates that day use visitors primarily engaged in day hikes (63%) and picnics/barbecues (41%) while on the forest. Other usual activities included camping, sightseeing, driving for pleasure, watching wildlife, off-highway vehicle rides, and mountain bike rides. Combined into the "other" category were relaxing, trail running, biking, bouldering/rock climbing, health, motorcycle riding, photography, playing with dog, visit with others, work, and college research.

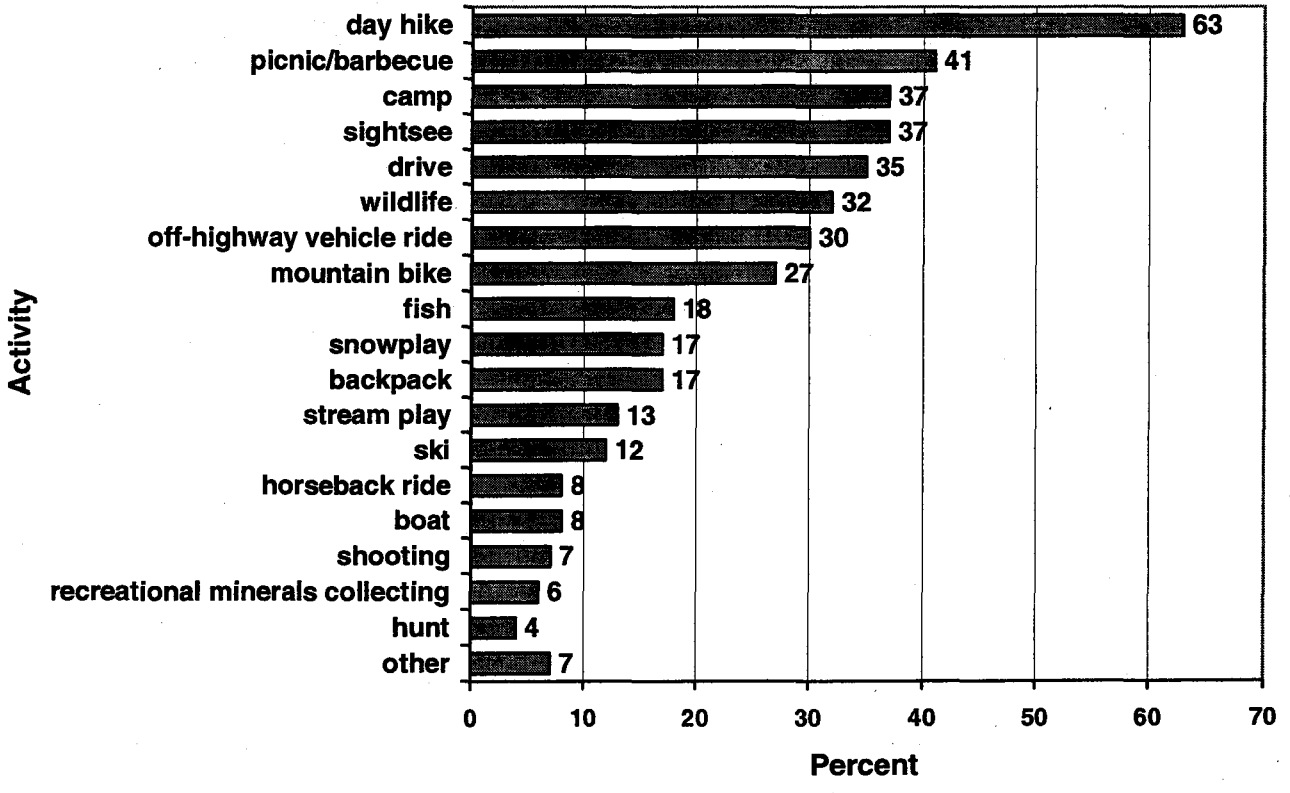

Figure 3. Activities in which respondents usually engage while visiting the National Forests (n = 249, multiple responses; 1042 total cases).

Repeat visitors to the site participated in more activities at national forest day use sites (4.6 activities) than did first time visitors (3.6 activities, $t(243) = -2.50$, $p<0.013$). In general, 77% respondents with a college diploma were more likely to go day hiking than those without a college diploma (51%, $p = 0.000$).

Figure 4 indicates that the favorite activity among the day use visitors was day hiking (26%) while on the forest. Other favorite activities included off-highway vehicle rides and mountain bike riding. Combined into the "other" category were boating, skiing, stream play, trail running, hunting, snow play, relaxing, motorcycle riding, and biking.

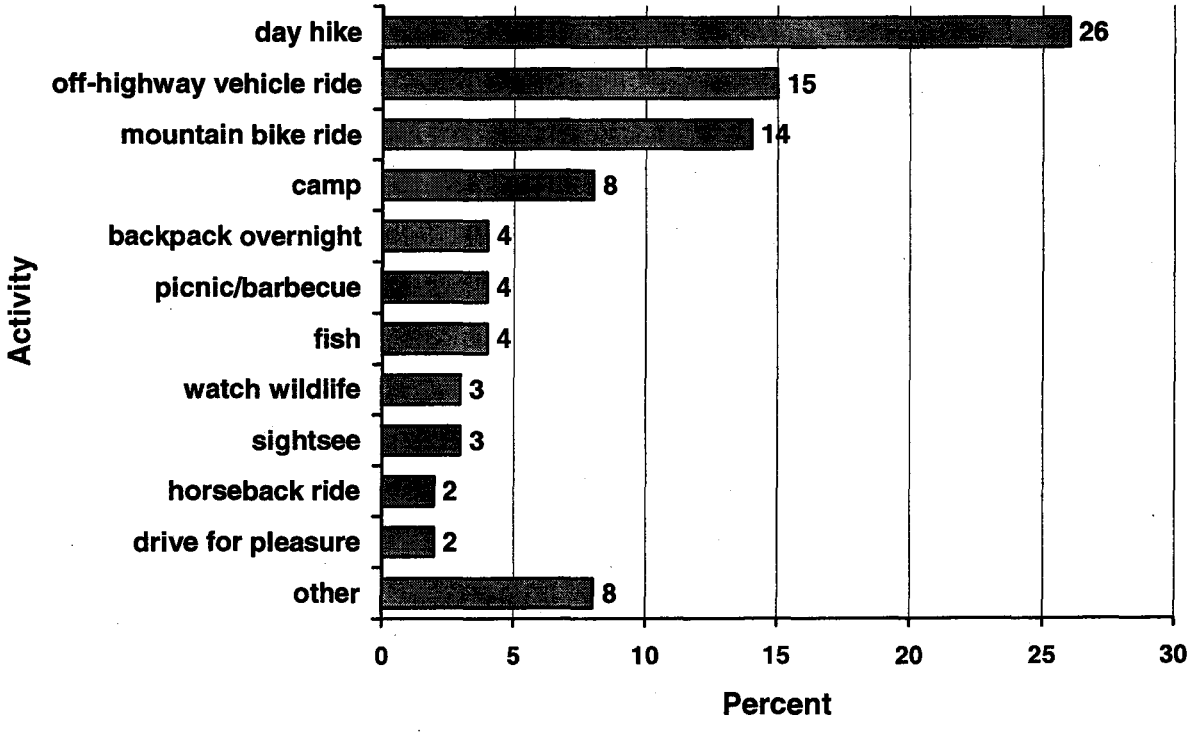

Figure 4. Favorite activities (n = 249)

Figure 5 indicates that the activity engaged in most often among the day use visitors was day hiking (28%) and off-highway vehicle riding (17%) while on the forest. Other activities included mountain biking, camping, and driving for pleasure. Combined into the "other" category were boating, trail running, backpacking overnight, skiing, hunting, recreational minerals collecting, snow play, stream play work, college research, motorcycle riding, and biking.

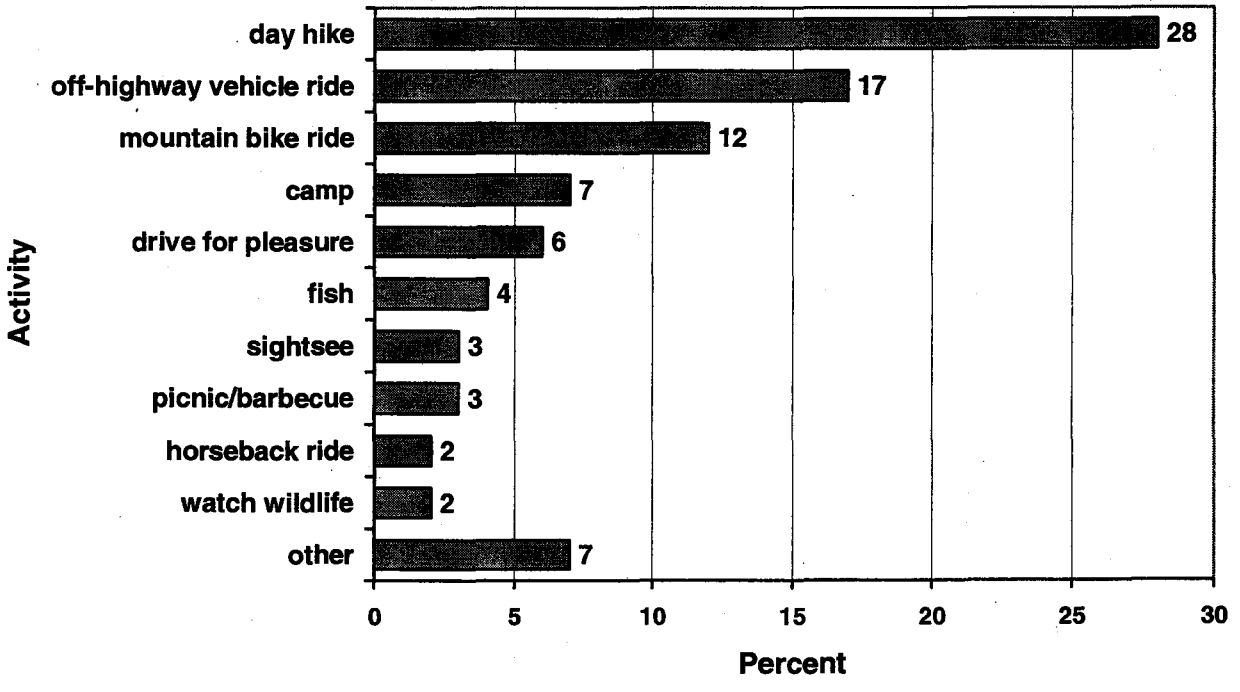

Figure 5. Activities engaged in most often (n = 249)

Most day use visitors were engaged in the following activities on the day we contacted them: "day hiking" (35%), "off-highway vehicle rides" (17%), and "mountain bike riding" (14%; see Fig. 6). Combined into the "other" category were trail running, fishing, stream play, motorcycle riding, recreational minerals collecting, and relaxing.

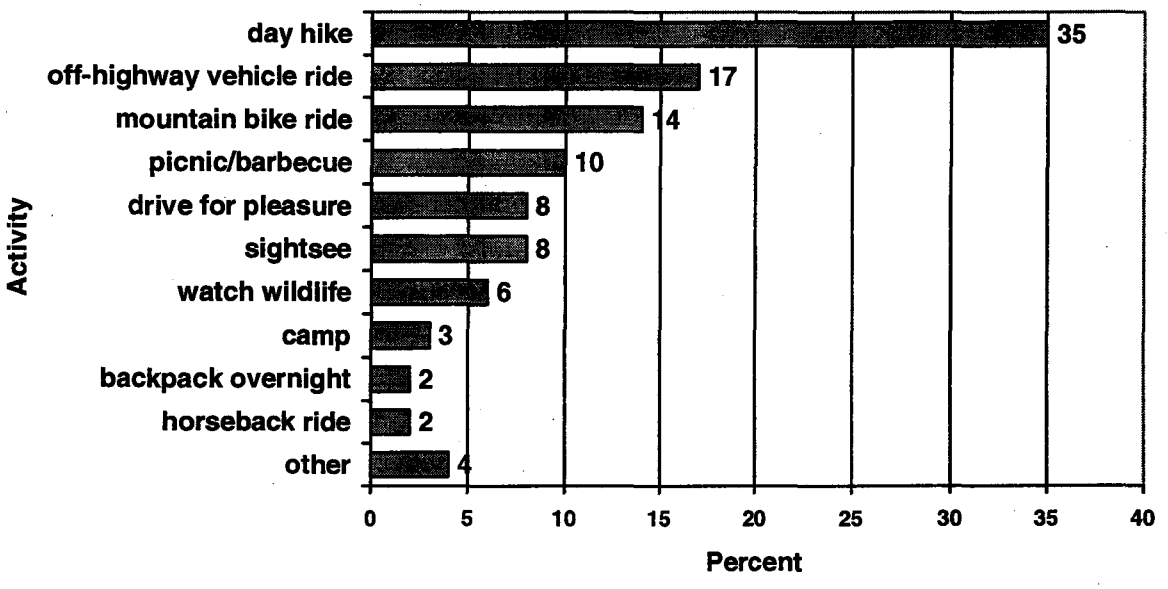

Figure 6. Activities on day contacted (n = 249; 259 multiple responses).

Visitors engaged in an average of 1.2 activities (n = 227; SD = 0.56) on the date contacted.

Respondents were asked if they had heard of, had tried, or might try a range of recreational activities in three different categories: Traditional activities (i.e., natural history hikes, horseback tours), new activities (i.e., mountain biking, camera safaris, eco-tours), and high risk activities (i.e., heli-skiing, bungee jumping, hang gliding). With the exception of mountain biking, the results indicate that the traditional activities were the ones most likely to have been heard of, tried, and would possibly be tried in the future (see Fig. 7). With the exception of mountain biking, fewer respondents had heard of or participated in the new activities, although over half the visitors indicated they would be willing to try the activities in this category. Almost 80 percent of visitors 39 years of age and younger indicated that they have tried mountain biking ($p = 0.001$). Few people had tried the high risk activities though most had heard of bungee jumping (74%) and hang gliding (73%).

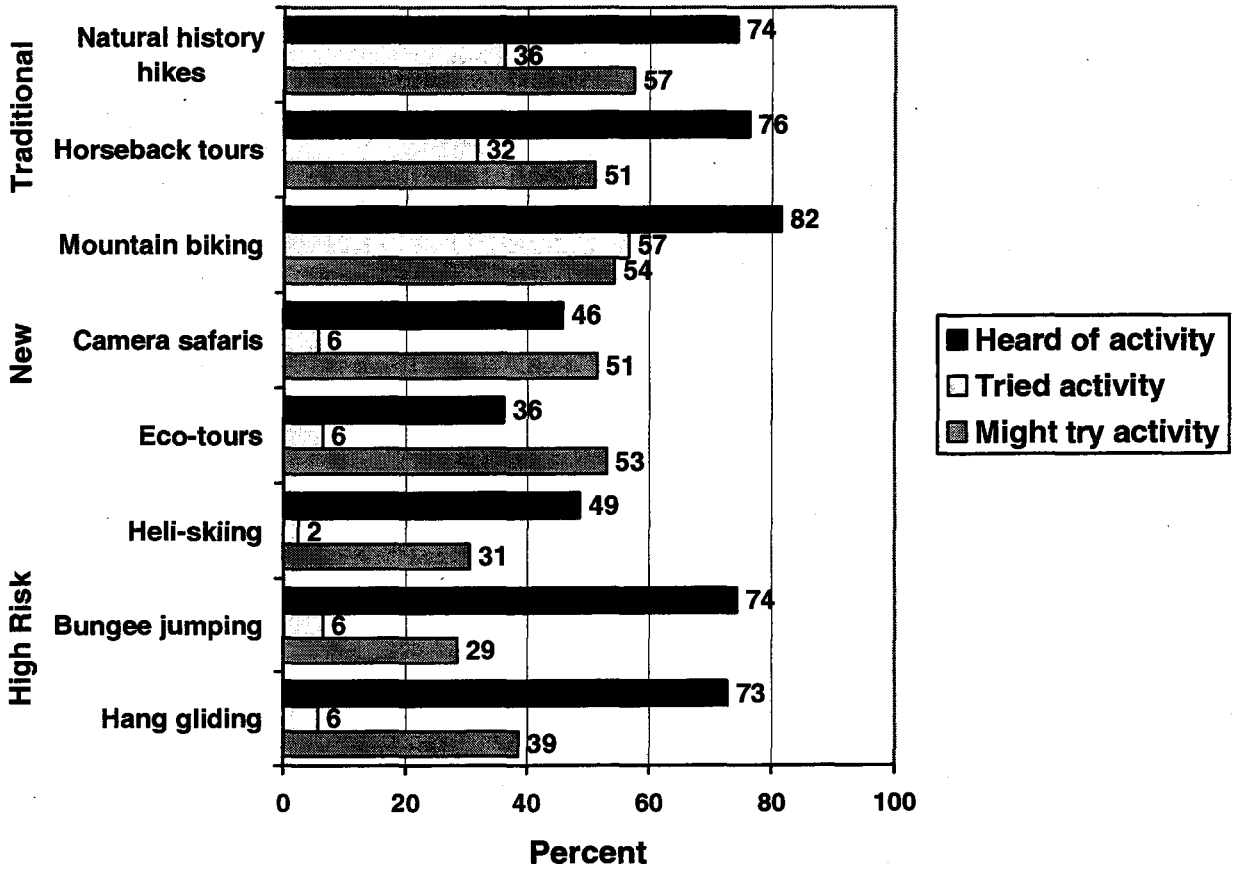

Figure 7. Activity trends (n = 249)

Day use visitors were interested in a variety of informational talks (see Fig. 8). Nearly half of the respondents (45%) indicated they would attend talks on animals and their habitats if offered. Other popular topics were local mountain history, citizens involvement in forest protection, effects of pollution on forests, and safety issues. "Other" topics (n = 17) included conservation, flora of area, trail clearing and maintenance, and wildlife habitat and protection. Preferred children's topics (n = 28) included animals, wilderness survival, trees, stars, nature, natural features, historic features, and "anything for children.".

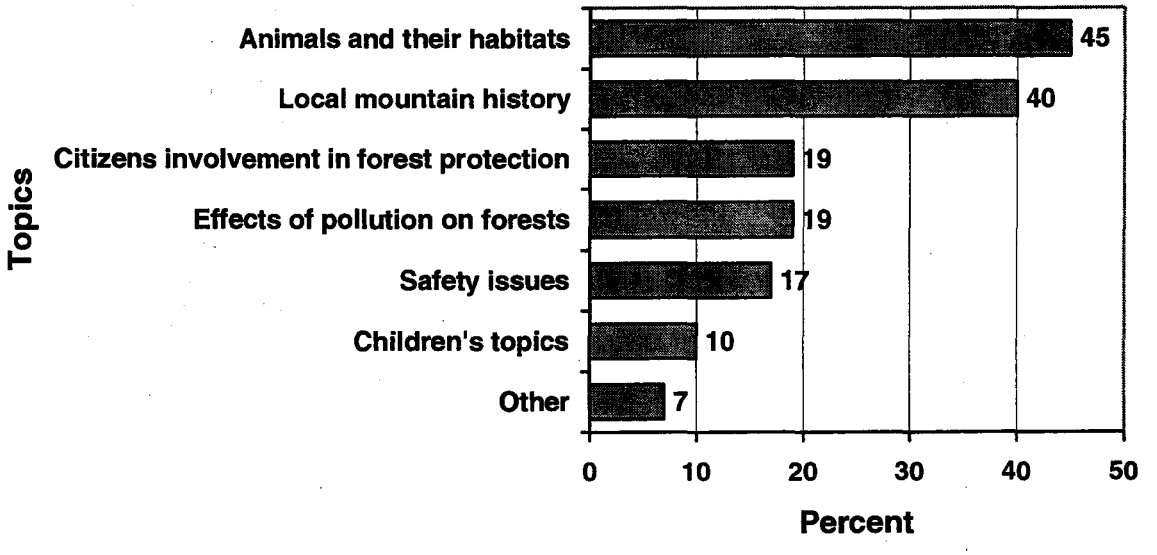

Figure 8. Ranger led activities in which respondents would participate (n = 249; 389 multiple responses)

Respondents were asked how they first heard about the day use sites on the Forest. Over two-thirds of the visitors (70%) heard about these day use sites by word-of-mouth sources such as family members and friends (see Fig. 9). Other sources include: "from a book", "driving, passing by", "on the internet", "saw it in brochures", and "saw it on a map". Combined into the "other" category were agency (ranger station, ranger), always known, newspaper, club or organization, radio, live locally, law enforcement, television, road sign, camping at local camp or campground, word of mouth, museum, church, shop or store, and flyers.

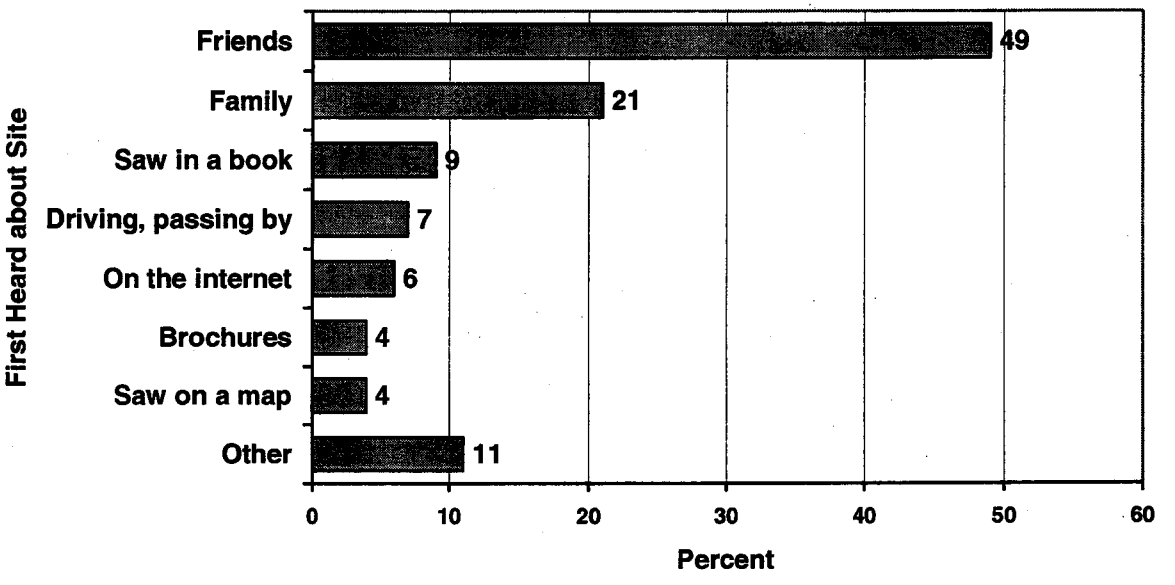

Figure 9. Information sources (n = 249; 275 multiple responses)

Respondents were asked how they might like to receive information about National Forests while on-site. They were given response choices (e.g., brochure at entrance), and for each rated it as a source they liked or disliked. More than seven in ten respondents indicated that brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site, signs along the road, and postings on bulletin boards were favorable ways to obtain information on-site (see Fig. 10).

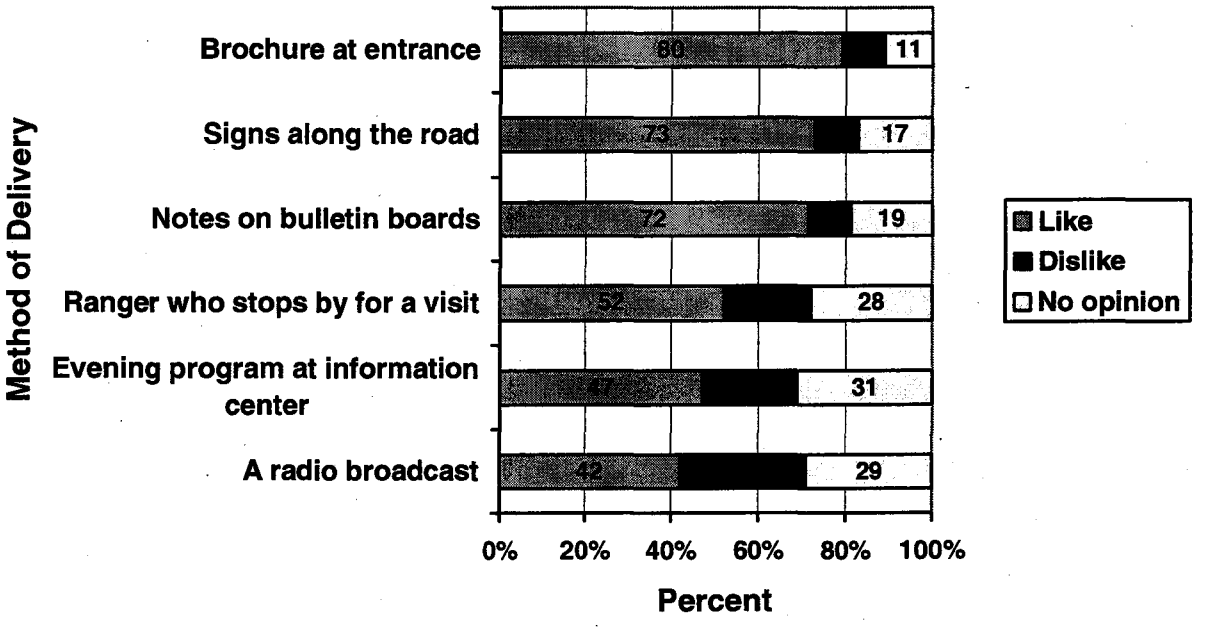

Figure 10. Preferences for information related to National Forests while on-site (n = 249)

When asked the types of site information desired, respondents requested an average of 11 items (n = 244; SD = 6.04; see table 2). Of interest to more than 60 percent of visitors were "camping in the area", "hiking in the area", "best times to visit the area to avoid crowds", and "location of day hike trails". Fewer people were interested in information on "shooting areas" and "hunting in the area". Combined into the "other" category were mountain bike trails, maps, mineral deposit locations, mountain bike rules, raptor education, water availability, and any relevant information.

Table 2. Kinds of information respondents would like to receive (n = 249; 2739 multiple responses)

70%	Camping in the area	50%	History of the area
68%	Hiking in the area	48%	Similar areas that are not crowded
63%	Best times to visit the area to avoid crowds	45%	Ways to protect the wild area
61%	Location of day hike trails	44%	Location of overnight trails
56%	Things to see and do	43%	Ways to keep the area natural looking
54%	Streamside areas	42%	Safety in the area
53%	Picnic/barbecue areas	37%	Off-highway vehicle areas
52%	Places similar to this one	36%	Surrounding area to the forest
52%	Rules and regulations	35%	Fishing in the area
51%	Cultural and historical features of the area	19%	Shooting areas
51%	Types of plants and animals in the area	16%	Hunting in the area
50%	Rare types of plants and animals	4%	Other

A few questions were asked in order to assess visitors' knowledge of the rules and regulations pertaining to National Forest use. Overall, respondents averaged 2.3 correct answers to the four questions (n = 247; SD = 1.23). Also, a little more than half of the participants demonstrated an understanding of these rules, with over a third not knowing the rule or not responding to the question (see Fig.11). Receiving the most correct responses was the rule "you can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches)."

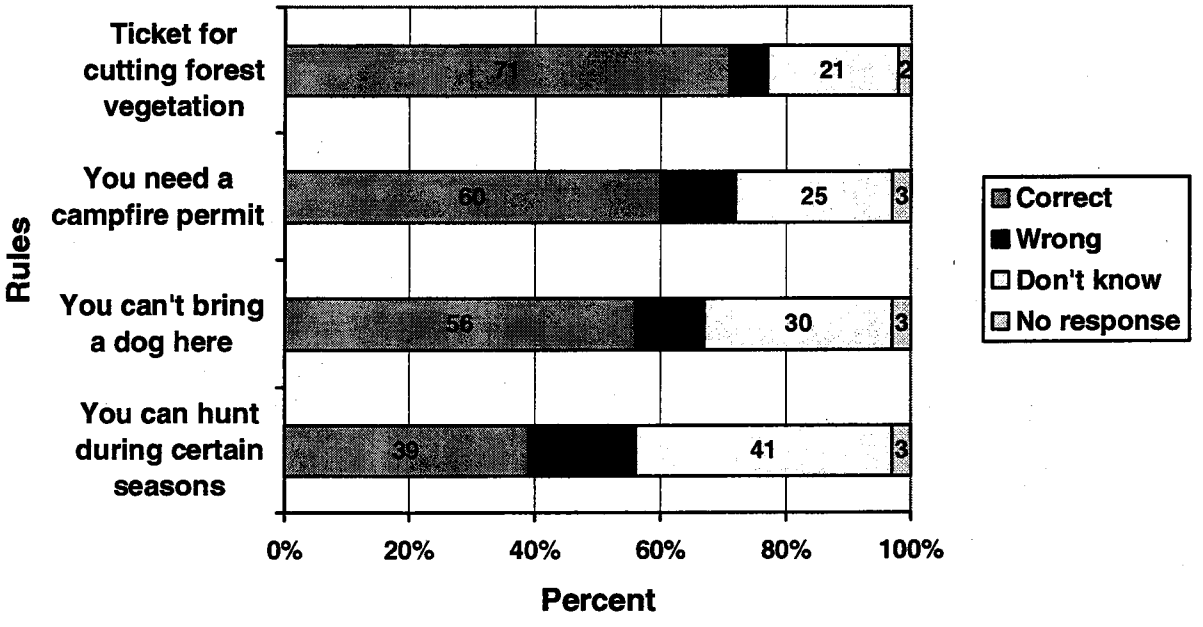

Figure 11. Rules and regulations (n = 249)

Respondents 40 years of age and older (mean = 2.5) answered a higher number of the questions correctly than those 39 and younger (mean = 2.0, $t(236) = -2.70$, $p<0.008$). First time visitors were more likely (92%) to know the rule "you need a campfire permit in order to have a fire outside of a developed recreation site" than repeat visitors (79%, $p = 0.034$).

Site Attributes

Respondents were asked their opinion about the kinds of facilities and amenities they would like on-site. Of the ten facilities and amenities items, visitors rated an average of four items as being "important" or "very important" to their enjoyment of the day use site (mean = 4.4, n = 247; SD = 2.91). More than half of day use visitors rated the presence of trashcans, water faucets, and parking areas as important facilities/amenities to have on site for use (see table 3). Of least importance were cooking grills and group facilities. "Other" responses (n = 29) included modern restrooms with running water, benches, and music noise restrictions, to name a few.

Table 3. Relative importance of features/facilities on-site (n = 249)

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	Don't Know / No Response	**Mean**
Trash cans	35%	32%	10%	3%	12%	8%	**3.8**
Water faucets	30%	34%	13%	4%	11%	8%	**3.7**
Parking areas	20%	38%	14%	7%	10%	11%	**3.5**
Picnic tables	16%	33%	20%	11%	11%	9%	**3.3**
Law enforcement and patrols	14%	27%	24%	10%	13%	12%	**3.2**
Restricted use levels	11%	19%	28%	8%	12%	22%	**3.1**
Fire pits/rings	16%	23%	21%	12%	18%	11%	**3.1**
Telephones	9%	22%	30%	13%	16%	9%	**2.9**
Cooking grills	10%	18%	28%	18%	18%	8%	**2.8**
Group facilities	5%	15%	35%	15%	15%	14%	**2.8**
Other	35%	32%	10%	3%	12%	8%	**3.5**

In general, respondents without a college diploma rated cooking grills (mean = 3.05, $t(216) = 2.31$, $p<0.022$), fire pits/rings (mean = 3.32, $t(210) = 2.01$, $p<0.046$), and telephones (mean = 3.13, $t(213) = 2.40$, $p<0.017$) as more important than those with college diplomas.

Respondents were asked their preferences about trail length and design. The most popular types of hiking trails were those that were somewhat challenging (58%), trails which take a few hours (55%), and one hour trails (45%, see Fig. 12). "Other" preferences (n = 18) included mountain bike trails, off-highway vehicle, near water, and multi-skill level trail systems.

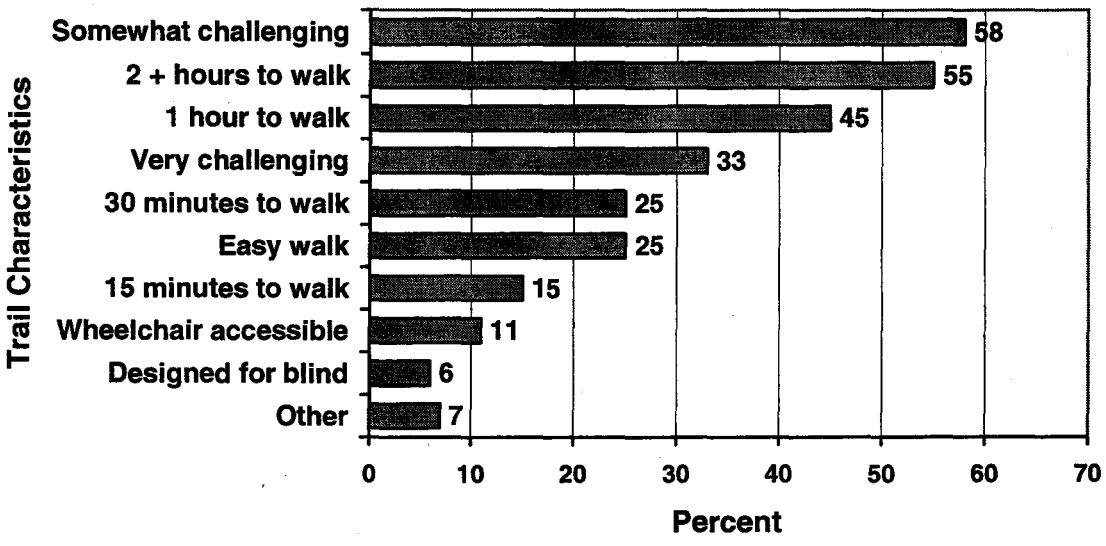

Figure 12. Trail preferences (n = 249)

Visitors with a college diploma were more likely to prefer trails that "take a few hours" (67%, p = 0.000) and those that were "somewhat challenging" (66%, p = 0.035).

Other Visitor Perceptions

Respondents were told that some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities and were asked their opinions about impacts at the day use site. Visitors reported an average of five events (out of nine) "bothers me a lot" (mean = 4.9, n = 249; SD = 2.58). Most of the visitors indicated that "litter along the road", "litter at picnic sites", "drawings or graffiti on natural structures", "carving of names, initials or messages on trees", and "drawings or graffiti on man-made structures" bothered them a lot (see table 4).

Table 4. Ratings of events or behavior happening at the site (n = 249)

	It bothers me a lot	**It bothers me a little**	**It does not bother me**	**I have not seen this**
Litter along the road	78%	8%	2%	10%
Litter at picnic sites	77%	7%	3%	11%
Drawings or graffiti on natural structures	75%	4%	2%	14%
Carving of names, initials or messages on trees	74%	8%	7%	10%
Drawings or graffiti on man-made structures	73%	8%	3%	13%
Cars parked at "no parking" areas	35%	30%	17%	13%
Dogs walked off leash	31%	23%	33%	10%
People drinking alcohol	27%	19%	40%	11%
A lot of people at the site	24%	35%	25%	13%

Cars parked at "no parking" areas were more likely to bother respondents 40 years of age and older (46%, p = 0.001). Additional statistical tests also revealed that respondents 40 years of age and older (mean = 5.4 items) indicated that a higher number of these items bothered them a lot as compared to those 39 and younger (mean = 4.4 items, t(2.37) = -3.10, p = 0.002).

Day use visitors' feelings regarding their recreation experience were generally positive, with almost 90 percent reporting that they planned to return to the site (see Fig. 13). At least three-quarters of the visitors agreed with the statements that: "this trip is well worth the money I spent to take it" (84%), "this is a great recreation experience" (84%), "I plan to tell another person about my trip here" (82%), "the site was safe and secure" (81%), "my experience was as good as I had hoped" (77%).

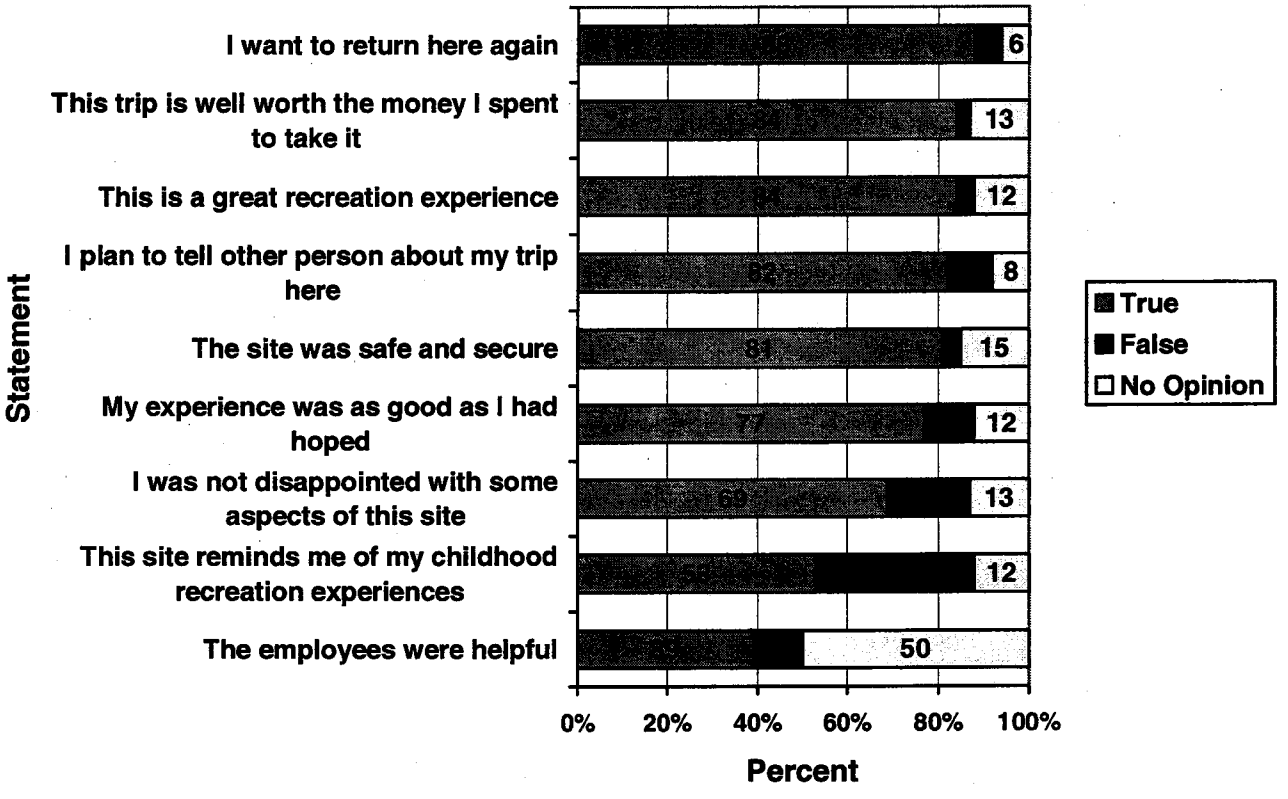

Figure 13. Impression of day use recreation experience (n = 249)

Repeat visitors were more likely to have reported "I want to return here again" (97%, p = 0.011).

Other Comments

At the close of the instrument respondents had an opportunity to write other comments (see Appendix D). Most comments were positive about the sites. Positive comments were about the beauty of the site, how it is enjoyable, and how people love it. Others voiced concerns over low levels of water and the impact of the drought.

Comments on facilities were neutral or offered suggestions such as adding restrooms, showers or faucets, swimming pool, race track and additional OHV site.

Comments on trails varied from positive (had a great ride), to the need to clear trails, to concerns about keeping the trails open to use. Others voiced concerns that they might have chosen another trail had they realized they were in an area that had fuel reduction via a controlled burn. They suggested posting information about such areas.

A few visitors expressed concern over fees while others thought of additional services they would like to see (such as ranger-led walks and programs, shaded rest areas and benches).

Conclusions

Results from the 2002 Day Use survey were presented in this report with some sub-group comparisons. Overall results indicate Cleveland National Forest visitors were typically white (though 19 percent come from other racial/ethnic groups), were U.S.-born, tend to be male, and average 40 years of age and 16 years of education. Most Cleveland National Forest day use visitors were recreating with family and friends, visit for one to three hours, were repeat visitors, and planned to return to sites on the Cleveland National Forest. While there the typical visitor went on day hikes and had picnics/barbeques, though favorite activities and the typical ones on the day contacted were day hiking and off-highway vehicle riding. Day use visitors had great interest in informational talks given by Cleveland National Forest employees. Most heard about the Cleveland National Forest from word-of mouth resources (typically family and friends). Preferred sources of on-site information included brochures, signs along the road and bulletin boards. Day use visitors wanted more information about camping and hiking in the area. Preferred site attributes included trash cans, water faucets, parking areas and picnic tables. They also preferred somewhat challenging trails that take a few hours to hike. Day use visitors were bothered by

problems such as litter on roads and picnic sites, drawing and graffiti on natural and man-made structures. Overall, most day use visitors wanted to return to the Cleveland National Forest again, believed the money spent was worth it and had a great recreation experience.

An important demographic was repeat visitation. Repeat visitors were more likely to return again in the next 12 months, more likely to have visited other sites and engaged in more activities than first time visitors. Another important demographic was age. Respondents age 40 and above had been visiting the Cleveland National Forest for more years, correctly identified more area rules and regulations, and found cars parked in "no parking" areas bothersome. The younger visitors were more likely to have been mountain biking. Finally, years of education analyses indicated the visitors with college diplomas were more likely to be trail hikers and desired somewhat to very challenging trails. Those without a college diploma had greater desire for cooking grills, fire pits/rings, and telephones.

Managers of the Cleveland National Forest can use the results of this report in several ways. First the demographics suggest a mostly white clientele, suggesting a focus on English language communications. Of course, multiple languages in communications will enhance outreach to these groups who may be under-represented at day use sites. Development preferences suggest there are particular facilities and amenities (such as trash cans, water faucets, parking areas, and picnic tables) that visitors desire and a focus on these will be beneficial to the Forest and the visitors. There are many opportunities to communicate with forest visitors on-site ranging from ranger-led activities to brochures with information on area sites and features. Preferred outlets on-site were brochures, signs along the road, and notes on bulletin boards. Topics of interest included animals and their habitats, local mountain history, camping in the area, hiking in the area, and more. Attention to issues that bother recreation day use visitors will further enhance their visits to the Cleveland National Forest, visitors were especially concerned about litter and graffiti. Managers of Planning Places can similarly use the data specific to their Planning Places based on the results reported in these chapters. Finally, SCPP sections will be beneficial as the Forest directs their management attention to these special places.

Chapter 2 Elsinore Planning Place

Responses are provided in the form of percentages and are reported for the 37 respondents at recreation sites located in the Elsinore Planning Place (Ortega Falls dispersed trails, Tenaja Trailhead, and the Wildomar Off-Highway Vehicle Staging Area) unless noted otherwise. Due to the small sample size, the median, or middle value , are provided instead of the average when appropriate. Appendix C provides tables with mean, median, mode, range, and quarter percentiles. The SCPP sections should be viewed with caution. Additionally, the sample sizes are small, though the dates and sites were randomly selected, they were selected as part of the larger study.

Visitor Characteristics

Among day use site visitors, approximately two-thirds were male (70%) and a third female (30%). Respondents' age ranged from 18 to 62 years, with a median age of 38 years (n = 37). Survey respondents had a median of 15 years of education (n = 37). Approximately 13 percent of visitors had a high school education, over half said they had some college education or a degree (57%), while 16 percent of the visitors had done graduate work.

White (73%) were the largest racial/ethnic group of those visitors surveyed, followed by Mexican (14%). English was spoken (89%) and read (92%) most of the time by the majority of the visitors surveyed.

Most of the visitors surveyed indicated they were born in the United States (89%) and have resided in the United States all their lives (89%).

Household income was quite varied, over half of visitors (51%) reported an annual household income of $60,000 or more.

The majority of day use visitors were recreating with family members (65%) and friends (41%). Some respondents were recreating alone (8%).

Respondents were also asked how long a visit they would have. Three percent planned to stay less than one hour. Almost two-thirds of the visitors (65%) planned a one to three hour visit while another 24 percent planned four to six hour visits and 5 percent planned to stay more than six hours.

Visitation Patterns

Over half of the day use visitors were repeat visitors (57%); that is, they had been to the site before. Of repeat visitors, most had visited a median of 5 times in the past 12 months (n = 20) and had been coming to this site for a median of 1 year (n = 13).

Most (90%) day use visitors were planning to return to the site again in the next 12 months, while 8 percent had no plans to return.

Almost three-quarters of the day use visitors (73%) had visited *other* National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months and these people had made a median of eight visits (n = 22). Only a few of the visitors (11%) were unsure or had not visited other Forest day use sites.

More than half of the day use visitors traveled less than an hour to get to the recreation site (57%), the other half traveled a median of an hour-and-a-half to get to the site (n = 8).

Visitor Activities On-site

A series of four questions addressed activity patterns. Day use visitors primarily engaged in day hikes (57%), camping (51%), and off-highway vehicle rides (49%) while on the forest. Other usual activities included backpacking (30%), wildlife viewing (30%), sightseeing (27%), fishing 22%), mountain biking (22%), and picnics/barbecues (22%).

The favorite activity among the day use visitors was off-highway vehicle riding (38%) and day hiking (27%) while on the forest.

The activity engaged in most often among the day use visitors was off-highway vehicle riding (43%) and day hiking (32%) while on the forest.

Visitors engaged in a median of one activity (n = 34), and most were engaged in off-highway vehicle riding (51%) and day hiking (38%) on the day we contacted them.

Respondents were asked if they had heard of, had tried, or might try a range of recreational activities in three different categories: Traditional activities (i.e., natural history hikes, horseback tours), new activities (i.e., mountain biking, camera safaris, eco-tours), and high risk activities (i.e., heli-skiing, bungee jumping, hang gliding). Most respondents had heard of bungee jumping (87%), mountain biking (84%), and horseback tours (81%). Most had tried mountain biking (57%),

horseback tours (41%), and natural history hikes (35%). Most planned to try natural history hikes (57%), horseback tours (54%), eco-vacations (54%), and camera safaris (54%).

Interpretation, Communication, and Information

Day use visitors were interested in a variety of informational talks. More than half of the respondents indicated they would attend talks on animals and their habitats (54%) and local mountain history (54%) if offered. Other popular topics were local mountain history, citizens involvement in forest protection (35%), safety issues (35%), and effects of pollution on forests (30%).

Respondents were asked how they first heard about the day use sites on the Forest. Almost half of the visitors (43%) heard about these day use sites by word-of-mouth sources such as family members and friends. Other sources include: from a book (19%) or on the internet (14%).

Respondents were asked how they might like to receive information about National Forests while on-site. They were given response choices (e.g., brochure at entrance), and for each rated it as a source they liked or disliked. Most of the respondents indicated that brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site (87%), postings on bulletin boards (81%), signs along the road (78%), a visit from a ranger (73%), and evening programs at an information center (62%) were favorable ways to obtain information on-site.

When asked the types of site information desired, over two-thirds of the respondents indicated an interest in learning more about "camping in the area" (78%) and "best times to visit the area to avoid crowds" (70%), requesting a median of 12 items (n = 37). Also of interest to more than half of visitors were "streamside areas" (67%), "hiking in the area" (60%), "things to see and do" (57%), "location of day hike trails" (51%), "off-highway vehicle areas" (51%), "places similar to this one" (51%), "similar areas that are not crowded" (51%), "types of plants and animals in the area" (51%), and "ways to keep the area natural looking" (51%). Fewer people were interested in information on "shooting areas" and "hunting in the area".

A few questions were asked in order to assess visitors' knowledge of the rules and regulations pertaining to National Forest use. Overall, respondents had a median of 2 correct answers to the four questions (n = 37). Also, less than half of the participants demonstrated an understanding of these rules, with over half not knowing the rule or not responding to the question.

Receiving the most correct responses was the rule "you can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches, 54%) and "you can't bring a dog here" (54%).

Site Attributes

Respondents were asked their opinion about the kinds of facilities and amenities they would like on-site. Of the ten facilities and amenities items, visitors rated a median of 5.5 items as being "important" or "very important" to their enjoyment of the day use site (n = 36). More than half of day use visitors rated the presence of trash cans (78%), water faucets (62%), parking areas (59%), picnic tables (59%), and fire pits/rings (57%) as important facilities/amenities to have on site for use.

Respondents were asked their preferences about trail length and design. The most popular types of hiking trails were those that were somewhat challenging trails (65%), one hour trails (51%), and trails which take a few hours (51%).

Other Visitor Perceptions

Respondents were told that some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities and were asked their opinions about impacts at the day use site. Visitors reported a median of five events (out of nine) bothered them a lot (n = 37). Most of the visitors indicated that "litter along the road" (73%), "carving of names, initials or messages on trees" (68%), "drawings or graffiti on man-made structures" (68%), "litter at picnic sites" (68%), and "drawings or graffiti on natural structures" (65%), bothered them a lot.

Day use visitors' feelings regarding their recreation experience were generally positive, with almost 90 percent reporting that they planned to return to the site. At least three-quarters of the visitors agreed with the statements that: "this trip is well worth the money I spent to take it" (89%), "the site was safe and secure" (89%), "I plan to tell other person about my trip here" (89%), "this is a great recreation experience" (84%), and "my experience was as good as I had hoped" (78%).

Chapter 3 Laguna Planning Place

Responses are provided in the form of percentages and are reported for the 101 respondents at recreation sites located in the Laguna Planning Place (Laguna Mountain Visitor Center, Meadow Kiosk/Sunset Trail Area, Penny Pines Trailhead, Pioneer Mail Picnic Area, and the Storm Canyon Vista Overlook) unless noted otherwise. Some means, or averages, are also provided when appropriate. However, both the mean and the median (middle value of a list) may give useful information. Appendix C provides a table with mean, median, mode, range, and quarter percentiles. The SCPP sections should be viewed with caution. Additionally, the sample sizes are small, though the dates and sites were randomly selected, they were selected as part of the larger study.

Visitor Characteristics

Among day use site visitors, approximately two-thirds were male (65%) and a third female (34%). Respondents' age ranged from 21 to 86 years, with an average age of 43 years (n = 98; SD = 13.45). On average, survey respondents had 16 years of education (n = 98; SD = 2.45). Approximately 9 percent of visitors had a high school education, almost two-thirds said they had some college education or a degree (62%), while 26 percent of the visitors had done graduate work.

White (73%) were the largest racial/ethnic group of those visitors surveyed, followed by Mexican (10%). English was spoken (87%) and read (90%) most of the time by the majority of the visitors surveyed.

Most of the visitors surveyed indicated they were born in the United States (77%) and have resided in the United States all their lives (75%). Of those who have lived elsewhere (21%), the median amount of time lived in the U.S. was 14 years (n = 18).

Household income was quite varied, over half of visitors (54%) reported an annual household income of $60,000 or more.

The majority of day use visitors were recreating with friends (49%) and family members (40%). Some respondents were recreating alone (13%) and others were with an organized group (4%).

Respondents were also asked how long a visit they would have. Thirteen percent planned to stay less than one hour. Over a third of the visitors (38%) planned a one to three hour visit while another 30 percent planned four to six hour visits, and 14 percent planned to stay more than six hours.

Visitation Patterns

Over half of the day use visitors were repeat visitors (58%); that is, they had been to the site before. Of repeat visitors, most had visited a median of three times in the past 12 months (n = 52) and had been coming to this site for a median of ten years (n = 50).

Almost two-thirds (68%) day use visitors were planning to return to the site again in the next 12 months, while 21 percent were unsure and 11 percent had no plans to return.

Almost two-thirds of the day use visitors (63%) had visited *other* National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months and these people had made a median of four visits (n = 56). Over a third of the visitors (37%) were unsure or had not visited other Forest day use sites.

A third of the day use visitors traveled less than an hour to get to the recreation site (38%), the other two-thirds traveled a median of an hour-and-a-half to get to the site (n = 42).

Visitor Activities On-site

A series of four questions addressed activity patterns. Day use visitors primarily engaged in day hikes (69%), driving for pleasure (51%), sightseeing (45%), and picnic/barbecues (41%) while on the forest. Other usual activities included wildlife viewing, camping, and mountain biking.

The favorite activity among the day use visitors was day hiking (31%) and mountain biking (20%) while on the forest. Other favorite activities included camping, backpack overnight, and sightseeing.

The activity engaged in most often among the day use visitors was day hiking (32%), mountain biking (17%), and driving for pleasure (13%) while on the forest. Other activities included camping, fishing, and sightseeing.

Visitors engaged in an average of 1.3 activities (n = 90; SD = 0.73), and most were engaged in day hiking (44%) on the day we contacted them. Other activities included mountain biking (18%), sightseeing (16%), and driving for pleasure (14%).

Respondents were asked if they had heard of, had tried, or might try a range of recreational activities in three different categories: Traditional activities (i.e., natural history hikes, horseback tours), new activities (i.e., mountain biking, camera safaris, eco-tours), and high risk activities (i.e., heli-skiing, bungee jumping, hang gliding). Overall, the results indicate that the traditional activities were the ones most likely to have been heard of, tried, and would possibly be tried in the future. With the exception of mountain biking, which more people had heard of (88%) and tried (56%), fewer respondents had heard of or participated in the new activities, although over half the visitors indicated they would be willing to try the activities in this category.

Interpretation, Communication, and Information

Day use visitors were interested in a variety of informational talks. More than half of the respondents indicated they would attend talks on animals and their habitats (55%). Other popular topics were local mountain history (45%), effects of pollution on forests (19%), citizens involvement in forest protection (17%), any children's topic (13%; wildlife, wilderness survival, and trees), and safety issues (11%).

Respondents were asked how they first heard about the day use sites on the Forest. Almost three-quarters of the visitors heard about these day use sites by word-of-mouth sources such as friends (52%) and family members (21%). Other sources include: from a book, on the internet, driving or passing by, or from a map.

Respondents were asked how they might like to receive information about National Forests while on-site. They were given response choices (e.g., brochure at entrance), and for each rated it as a source they liked or disliked. Most of the respondents indicated that brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site (81%), postings on bulletin boards (79%), signs along the road (74%), evening programs at an information center (55%), and a visit from a ranger (55%) were favorable ways to obtain information on-site.

When asked the types of site information desired, over two-thirds of the respondents indicated an interest in learning more about "hiking in the area" (76%), "location of day hike

trails" (70%), "camping in the area" (69%), and "things to see and do" (62%), requesting an average of eleven items (n = 99; SD = 5.95). Also of interest to more than half of visitors were "history of the area" (58%), "best times to visit the area to avoid crowds" (57%), "types of plants and animals in the area" (53%), "picnic/barbecue areas" (53%), "cultural and historical features of the area" (53%), "rules and regulations" (51%), and "rare types of plants and animals" (51%).

A few questions were asked in order to assess visitors' knowledge of the rules and regulations pertaining to National Forest use. Overall, respondents averaged 2.4 correct answers to the four questions (n = 100; SD = 1.23). Also, more than half of the participants demonstrated an understanding of these rules, with over a third not knowing the rule or not responding to the question. Receiving the most correct responses was the rule "you can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches, 78%) and "you need a campfire permit" (66%).

Site Attributes

Respondents were asked their opinion about the kinds of facilities and amenities they would like on-site. Of the ten facilities and amenities items, visitors reported an average of five items as being "important" or "very important" to their enjoyment of the day use site (n = 99; SD = 2.86). More than half of day use visitors rated the presence of water faucets (71%), parking areas (70%), trash cans (66%), and picnic tables (52%) as important facilities/amenities to have on site for use.

Respondents were asked their preferences about trail length and design. The most popular types of hiking trails were those that take a few hours (62%), were somewhat challenging (58%), and one hour trails (55%).

Other Visitor Perceptions

Respondents were told that some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities and were asked their opinions about impacts at the day use site. Visitors reported a median of six events (out of nine) bothered them a lot (n = 101). Most of the visitors indicated that drawings or graffiti on natural structures (84%), litter at picnic sites (84%), drawings or graffiti on

man-made structures (83%), litter along the road (82%), and carving of names, initials or messages on trees (81%), bothered them a lot.

Day use visitors' feelings regarding their recreation experience were generally positive, with 85 percent reporting that they planned to return to the site. At least three-quarters of the visitors agreed with the statements that: "this is a great recreation experience" (83%), "the site was safe and secure" (80%), "this trip is well worth the money I spent to take it" (80%), "my experience was as good as I had hoped" (78%), "I plan to tell other person about my trip here" (76%), and "I was not disappointed with some aspects of this site" (74%).

Chapter 4 Palomar Mountain Planning Place

Responses are provided in the form of percentages and are reported for the 25 respondents at recreation sites located in the Palomar Mountain Planning Place (San Luis Rey Picnic Area) unless noted otherwise. Due to the small sample size, the median , or middle, are provided instead of the average when appropriate. Appendix C provides a table with mean, median, mode, range, and quarter percentiles. Additionally, the sample sizes are small, though the dates and sites were randomly selected, they were selected as part of the larger study.

Visitor Characteristics

Among day use site visitors, approximately three quarters were female (72%) and a quarter male (28%). Respondents' age ranged from 20 to 62 years, with a median age of 36 years (n = 22). Survey respondents had a median of 13 years of education (n = 25). Approximately 28 percent of visitors had a high school education, half said they had some college education or a degree (52%), while 4 percent of the visitors had done graduate work.

White (44%) were the largest racial/ethnic group of those visitors surveyed, followed by Mexican (24%), and American Indian or Alaskan Native (16%). There were 40 percent who described themselves as Hispanic/Latino. English was spoken (76%) and read (80%) most of the time by the majority of the visitors surveyed.

Most of the visitors surveyed indicated they were born in the United States (80%) and have resided in the United States all their lives (76%).

Household income was quite varied, over half of visitors (55%) reported an annual household income of $40,000 or more.

The majority of day use visitors were recreating with family members (96%) and friends (20%). Some respondents were recreating alone (4%) and others were with an organized group (4%).

Respondents were also asked how long a visit they would have. Four percent planned to stay less than one hour. Almost half of the visitors (44%) planned a one to three hour visit, while another 40 percent planned four to six hour visits, and 8 percent planned to stay more than six hours.

Visitation Patterns

Three-quarters of the day use visitors were repeat visitors (76%); that is, they had been to the site before. Of repeat visitors, most had visited a median of three times in the past 12 months (n = 15) and had been coming to this site for a median of ten years (n = 13).

Almost three-quarters (72%) day use visitors were planning to return to the site again in the next 12 months, while 24 percent were unsure and 4 percent had no plans to return.

Almost half of the day use visitors (44%) had visited *other* National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months and these people had made a median of 3.5 visits (n = 8). Half of the visitors (50%) were unsure or had not visited other Forest day use sites.

Less than half of the day use visitors traveled less than an hour to get to the recreation site (44%), the other half traveled a median of an hour-and-a-half to get to the site (n = 9).

Visitor Activities On-site

A series of four questions addressed activity patterns. Day use visitors primarily engaged in picnicking/barbecues (96%) while on the forest. Other usual activities included fishing (52%), day hiking (48%), stream playing (48%), camping (44%), sightseeing (44%), and wildlife viewing (44%).

The favorite activity among the day use visitors was picnicking/barbecues (28%), fishing (24%), and camping (20%) while on the forest.

The activity engaged in most often among the day use visitors was picnicking/barbecues (24%) and camping (20%) while on the forest. Other activities included fishing (16%) and off-highway vehicle rides (12%).

Visitors engaged in a median of one activity (n = 25), and most were engaged in picnicking/barbecues (72%) on the day we contacted them.

Respondents were asked if they had heard of, had tried, or might try a range of recreational activities in three different categories: Traditional activities (i.e., natural history hikes, horseback tours), new activities (i.e., mountain biking, camera safaris, eco-tours), and high risk activities (i.e., heli-skiing, bungee jumping, hang gliding). Most visitors had heard of natural history hikes (68%), mountain biking (68%), and bungee jumping (64%). The activities tried by the most respondents

were horseback tours (28%), mountain biking (28%), and natural history hikes (20%). Many reported they might try horseback tours (64%), eco-vacations (48%), mountain biking (44%), camera safaris (44%), and bungee jumping (44%).

Interpretation, Communication, and Information

Day use visitors were interested in a variety of informational talks. Almost half of the respondents indicated they would attend talks on animals and their habitats (44%). Other popular topics were local mountain history (24%), safety issues (20%), effects of pollution on forests (16%), and citizens involvement in forest protection (12%).

Respondents were asked how they first heard about the day use sites on the Forest. Most the visitors heard about these day use sites by word-of-mouth sources such as family members (56%) and friends (24%). Other sources included driving or passing by (20%).

Respondents were asked how they might like to receive information about National Forests while on-site. They were given response choices (e.g., brochure at entrance), and for each rated it as a source they liked or disliked. Most of the respondents indicated that brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site (84%), signs along the road (80%), postings on bulletin boards (52%), evening programs at an information center (48%), and a visit from a ranger (44%) were favorable ways to obtain information on-site.

When asked the types of site information desired, over two-thirds of the respondents indicated an interest in learning more about "picnic/barbecue areas" (84%), "camping in the area" (68%), and "streamside areas" (68%), requesting a median of ten items (n = 25). Also of interest to more than half of visitors were "fishing in the area" (64%), "safety in the area" (60%), "location of day hike trails" (56%), "places similar to this one" (56%), "rules and regulations" (56%), "best times to visit the area to avoid crowds" (52%), "hiking in the area" (52%), and "rare types of plants and animals" (52%).

A few questions were asked in order to assess visitors' knowledge of the rules and regulations pertaining to National Forest use. Overall, more than half of the participants demonstrated an understanding of these rules, and had a median of three correct answers to the four questions (n = 24). Receiving the most correct responses was the rule "you can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches, 72%) and "you need a campfire permit" (68%).

Site Attributes

Respondents were asked their opinion about the kinds of facilities and amenities they would like on-site. Of the ten facilities and amenities items, visitors rated a median of five items as being "important" or "very important" to their enjoyment of the day use site (n = 25). More than half of day use visitors rated the presence of cooking grills (60%), water faucets (60%), trash cans (56%), and picnic tables (52%) as important facilities/amenities to have on site for use.

Respondents were asked their preferences about trail length and design. The most popular types of hiking trails were those that were easy to walk (64%) and trails that take about 30 minutes (56%), or 15 minutes (48%).

Other Visitor Perceptions

Respondents were told that some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities and were asked their opinions about impacts at the day use site. Visitors reported a median of five events (out of nine) bothered them a lot (n = 25). Most of the visitors indicated that litter along the road (72%), litter at picnic sites (72%), carving of names, initials or messages on trees (68%), drawings or graffiti on natural structures (64%), and drawings or graffiti on man-made structures (56%), bothered them a lot.

Day use visitors' feelings regarding their recreation experience were generally positive, with almost 88 percent reporting that they planned to return to the site. At least three-quarters of the visitors agreed with the statements that: "the site was safe and secure" (88%), "this trip is well worth the money I spent to take it" (84%), "this is a great recreation experience" (80%), and "I plan to tell other person about my trip here" (76%). Additionally, at least six in ten agreed that "this site reminds me of my childhood recreation experiences (68%) and "my experience was as good as I had hoped" (60%).

Chapter 5 Interstate 8 Corridor Planning Place

Responses are provided in the form of percentages and are reported for the 47 respondents at recreation sites located in the Interstate 8 Corridor Planning Place (Bear Valley Staging Area, Noble Canyon Trailhead, Pine Creek Trailhead) unless noted otherwise. Due to the small sample size, the median , or middle value, are provided instead of the average when appropriate. Appendix C provides a table with mean, median, mode, range, and quarter percentiles. The SCPP sections should be viewed with caution. Additionally, the sample sizes are small, though the dates and sites were randomly selected, they were selected as part of the larger study.

Visitor Characteristics

Among day use site visitors, more than three quarters were male (79%) and a quarter female (21%). Respondents' age ranged from 23 to 66 years, with a median age of 38 years (n = 45). Survey respondents had a median of16 years of education (n = 47). Approximately 13 percent of visitors had a high school education, half said they had some college education or a degree (51%), while 34 percent of the visitors had done graduate work.

White (85%) were the largest racial/ethnic group of those visitors surveyed, followed by Mexican (4%), and Filipino (4%). English was spoken (87%) and read (96%) most of the time by the majority of the visitors surveyed.

Most of the visitors surveyed indicated they were born in the United States (89%) and have resided in the United States all their lives (87%).

Household income was quite varied, over half of visitors (51%) reported an annual household income of $60,000 or more.

The majority of day use visitors were recreating with friends (51%) and family members (21%). Some respondents were with an organized group (19%) and others were recreating alone (15%).

Respondents were also asked how long a visit they would have. Two percent planned to stay less than one hour. Almost half of the visitors (47%) planned a one to three hour visit while another 38 percent planned four to six hour visits and 9 percent planned to stay more than six hours.

Visitation Patterns

Three-quarters of the day use visitors were repeat visitors (72%); that is, they had been to the site before. Of repeat visitors, most had visited a median of two times in the past 12 months (n = 31) and had been coming to this site for a median of four years (n = 32).

Most (87%) day use visitors were planning to return to the site again in the next 12 months, while 13 percent were unsure and 4 percent had no plans to return.

Over three-quarters of the day use visitors (79%) had visited other National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months and these people had made a median of five visits (n = 36). The other visitors (21%) were unsure or had not visited other Forest day use sites.

Almost half of the day use visitors traveled less than an hour to get to the recreation site (45%), the other half traveled a median of an hour to get to the site (n = 20).

Visitor Activities On-site

A series of four questions addressed activity patterns. Day use visitors primarily engaged in day hiking (68%), picnicking/barbecues (47%), and mountain biking (40%) while on the forest. Other usual activities included wildlife viewing (38%), camping (36%), sightseeing (36%), driving for pleasure (34%), and off-highway vehicle rides (34%).

The favorite activity among the day use visitors was day hiking (26%), mountain biking (26%), and off-highway vehicle rides (17%) while on the forest.

The activity engaged in most often among the day use visitors was day hiking (36%), mountain biking (23%), and off-highway vehicle rides (19%) while on the forest.

Visitors engaged in a median of one activity (n = 45), and most were engaged in day hiking (36%), mountain biking (28%), and off-highway vehicle rides (21%) on the day we contacted them.

Respondents were asked if they had heard of, had tried, or might try a range of recreational activities in three different categories: Traditional activities (i.e., natural history hikes, horseback tours), new activities (i.e., mountain biking, camera safaris, eco-tours), and high risk activities (i.e.,

heli-skiing, bungee jumping, hang gliding). Apart from mountain biking, the results indicate that the traditional activities were the ones most likely to have been heard of, tried, and would possibly be tried in the future. Fewer respondents had heard of or participated in the new activities, although over half the visitors indicated they would be willing to try the activities in this category.

Interpretation, Communication, and Information

Day use visitors were interested in a variety of informational talks. Over a third of the respondents indicated they would attend talks on local mountain history (40%). Other popular topics were animals and their habitats (32%), citizen involvement in forest protection (17%), effects of pollution on forests (15%), and safety issues (13%).

Respondents were asked how they first heard about the day use sites on the Forest. Most the visitors heard about these day use sites by word-of-mouth sources such as friends (55%) and family members (17%).

Respondents were asked how they might like to receive information about National Forests while on-site. They were given response choices (e.g., brochure at entrance), and for each rated it as a source they liked or disliked. Most of the respondents indicated that brochures given out upon entrance to the recreation site (77%), postings on bulletin boards (66%), and signs along the road (64%) were favorable ways to obtain information on-site. Other ways to receive information were a radio broadcast (45%), a visit from a ranger (43%), and evening programs at an information center (40%).

When asked the types of site information desired, over two-thirds of the respondents indicated an interest in learning more about "camping in the area" (75%) and "best times to visit the area to avoid crowds" (70%), requesting a median of 13 items (n = 46). Also of interest to more than half of visitors were "hiking in the area" (68%), "places similar to this one" (66%), "cultural and historical features of the area" (62%), "rules and regulations" (62%), "rare types of plants and animals" (60%), "streamside areas" (60%), "things to see and do" (60%), "ways to protect the wild area" (57%), "location of day hike trails" (55%), "types of plants and animals in the area" (55%), "location of overnight trails" (51%), "similar areas that are not crowded" (51%), and "surrounding area to the forest" (51%).

A few questions were asked in order to assess visitors' knowledge of the rules and regulations pertaining to National Forest use. Overall, more than half of the participants demonstrated an understanding of these rules, and a median of two correct answers to the four questions (n = 47). Receiving the most correct responses was the rule "you can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches, 72%).

Site Attributes

Respondents were asked their opinion about the kinds of facilities and amenities they would like on-site. Of the ten facilities and amenities items, visitors rated a median of three items as being "important" or "very important" to their enjoyment of the day use site (n = 46). More than half of day use visitors rated the presence of trash cans (64%) and water faucets (62%) as important facilities/amenities to have on site for use. Other features considered important or very important were parking areas (44%), picnic tables (38%), law enforcement and patrols (34%), and fire pits/rings (28%).

Respondents were asked their preferences about trail length and design. The most popular types of hiking trails were those that somewhat challenging (70%) and those which take a few hours (62%). About four in ten preferred one-hour trails (40%) and very challenging trails (38%).

Other Visitor Perceptions

Respondents were told that some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities and were asked their opinions about impacts at the day use site. Visitors reported a median of five events (out of nine) bothered them a lot (n = 47). Most of the visitors indicated that litter along the road (85%), litter at picnic sites (83%), drawings or graffiti on natural structures (79%), carving of names, initials or messages on trees (77%), and drawings or graffiti on man-made structures (68%), bothered them a lot.

Day use visitors' feelings regarding their recreation experience were generally positive, with 94 percent reporting it was a great recreation experience and with 92 percent reporting that they planned to return to the site. At least three-quarters of the visitors agreed with the statements

that: "this trip is well worth the money I spent to take" (90%), "I plan to tell other person about my trip here" (87%), "my experience was as good as I had hoped" (85%), "the site was safe and secure" (85%), and "I was not disappointed with some aspects of this site" (81%).

References

Chavez, D.J. 2001. **Managing outdoor recreation in California: Visitor contact studies 1989 – 1998**. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-180. Albany, CA: Pacific Southwest Research Station, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 100 p.

Chavez, D.J.; Mainieri, T. 1995. **Recreation day use series- Report 1: San Bernardino National Forest, Summer 1992.** Unpublished research report. 58 p.

Chavez, D.J.; Winter, P.; Mainieri, T. 1995a. **Recreation day use series- Report 2, Angeles National Forest, Summer 1993.** Unpublished research report. 73 p.

Chavez, D.J.; Winter, P.; Mainieri, T. 1995b. **Recreation day use series- Report 3, Los Padres National Forest, Summer 1994.** Unpublished research report. 44 p.

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Appendix A

Survey Instrument

OMB# 0596-0129
Exp. 10/31/2002

Group # _____
Date _____
Site Location _____
Initials _____

Welcome to your National Forest!
To help understand visitor preferences and provide the best services possible at day use sites on the National Forests of Southern California, we are asking if you will take about 15 minutes to fill out this questionnaire. Your participation is voluntary.
All responses will be kept confidential.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0129. The time required to complete this information is estimated at 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

These first questions are about your visitation history and outdoor recreation activities.

1. Have you ever been to this site before?
   _____ No
   _____ Yes – About how many times in the past 12 months? _____
   – About how many years have you been coming here? _____

2. Do you plan to return to this site again in the next 12 months?
   _____ No
   _____ Yes
   _____ Don't know

3. How long did you travel to get to this site today?
   _____ Less than an hour
   _____ Hours

4. Have you visited other National Forest day use areas in the past 12 months?
   _____ I'm not sure
   _____ No
   _____ Yes – About how many times have you visited ANY National Forest day use site in the past 12 months? _____

5. Please indicate in which activities you **usually** engage while visiting the National Forests of Southern California. (Please check **all** that apply)

_____ Backpack overnight (1)
_____ Boat (2)
_____ Camp (3)
_____ Day hike (4)
_____ Drive for pleasure (5)
_____ Fish (6)
_____ Horseback ride (7)
_____ Hunt (8)
_____ Mountain bike ride (9)
_____ Off-highway vehicle ride (10)
_____ Picnic/barbecue (11)
_____ Recreational minerals collecting (12)
_____ Recreational shooting (13)
_____ Sightsee (14)
_____ Ski (15)
_____ Snow play (16)
_____ Stream play (17)
_____ Watch wildlife (18)
_____ Other (specify)_____(19)

Which of these activities is your favorite? (Write number) _____
Which of these activities do you do most often? (Write number) _____
Which of these activities are you doing today? (Write numbers) _____

6. If the following activities were available here, which would you participate in? (Check all that you would participate in)

Ranger led talks on:

_____ animals and their habitat
_____ children's topics (specify_____
_____)
_____ citizen involvement in forest protection
_____ effects of pollution on forests
_____ local mountain history
_____ safety issues
_____ other (specify_____
_____)

7. Following are a list of things some people like to do, some of these occur on the National Forest and some do not. Some of these are new activities, and you may not have heard of them yet. That ' s OK. Please tell us if you have heard of each item, if you have tried it anywhere before, and if you might like to try it in the future.

	Heard of it?		Tried it?		Might try it?		
	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Maybe	Yes
Camera safaris	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Heli-skiing	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Bungee jumping	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Hang gliding	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Mountain biking	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Natural history hikes	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Horseback tours	1	2	1	2	1	2	3
Eco-vacation	1	2	1	2	1	2	3

The following section asks about your information sources and preferences.

8. How did you first hear about this site? (Please check one response)

____ Agency	____ Flyers
____ Brochures	____ Newspaper
____ Family	____ Radio
____ Friends	____ Television
____ Other (specify)_____	

9. How would you like to get information related to National Forests while on-site? (For each please indicate if you would like it or dislike it)

	DISLIKE	LIKE
A radio broadcast	1	2
Brochure at entrance	1	2
Evening program at information center	1	2
Notes on bulletin boards	1	2
Ranger who stops by for visit	1	2
Signs along the road	1	2
Other (specify)_____	1	2

10. Please tell us what kinds of information you would like to get: (Please check all that apply)

____ Best times to visit the area to avoid crowds
____ Camping in the area
____ Cultural and historical features of the area
____ Fishing in the area
____ Hiking in the area
____ History of the area
____ Hunting in the area
____ Location of day hike trails
____ Location of overnight trails
____ Off-highway vehicle riding areas
____ Picnic/barbecue areas
____ Places similar to this one
____ Rare types of plants and animals
____ Rules and regulations
____ Safety in the area
____ Shooting areas
____ Similar areas that are not crowded
____ Streamside areas
____ Surrounding area to the forest
____ Things to see and do
____ Types of plants and animals in the area
____ Ways to protect the wild area
____ Ways to keep the area natural looking
____ Other _____

This section asks your opinions about the kinds of facilities and amenities you would like to see at this site.

11. Please indicate how important it would be to add these features/facilities to this recreation site.

	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important	Don't Know
Cooking grills	1	2	3	4	5	8
Fire pits/rings	1	2	3	4	5	8
Group facilities	1	2	3	4	5	8
Law enforcement & patrols	1	2	3	4	5	8
Parking areas	1	2	3	4	5	8
Picnic tables	1	2	3	4	5	8
Restricted use levels	1	2	3	4	5	8
Telephones	1	2	3	4	5	8
Trash cans	1	2	3	4	5	8
Water faucets	1	2	3	4	5	8
Other _____	1	2	3	4	5	8

12. If some trails could be developed at this site or nearby, what would be your preferences about the length of those trails and their design?

Would you prefer hiking trails: (check all that apply)

_____ that take 15 minutes or less to walk
_____ that take around 30 minutes to walk
_____ that take around an hour to walk
_____ that take a few hours to walk
_____ that are wheelchair accessible
_____ that are an easy walk (relatively flat and smooth)
_____ that are somewhat challenging (some incline and some smooth and some rugged terrain)
_____ that are very challenging (steep incline and rugged terrain)
_____ that are designed for the blind
_____ other preferences (specify_____)

Some day use sites have been impacted by various human activities. We would like to know your opinions about impacts at this site as well as your understanding of site rules and regulations.

13. How do you feel about the following events or behavior happening at this site:

	It does not bother me	It bothers me a little	It bothers me a lot	I have not seen this
A lot of people at the site	1	2	3	4
Dogs walked off leash	1	2	3	4
Cars parked at "no parking" areas	1	2	3	4
Carving of names, initials, or messages on trees	1	2	3	4
Drawings or graffiti on man-made surfaces (e.g., restrooms)	1	2	3	4
Drawings or graffiti on natural surfaces (e.g., rocks)	1	2	3	4
Litter along the road	1	2	3	4
Litter at picnic sites	1	2	3	4
People drinking alcohol	1	2	3	4

14. Some of the following rules are for this site and some are not. For each item please mark true (T) or false (F) or don ' t know (DK) if the rule applies to this site. (Circle one)

	T	F	DK
You can get a ticket for cutting forest vegetation (e.g., tree branches).	1	2	8
You can't bring a dog here, even if it is on a leash.	1	2	8
You need a campfire permit in order to have a fire outside of a developed recreation site.	1	2	8
You can hunt during certain seasons on this forest.	1	2	8

These questions ask your impressions about your recreation experience today.

15. Please rate whether or not the following statements are true (T) or not (F) for you, or if you don ' t know (DK).

	T	F	DK
Being at this site reminds me of my childhood recreation experiences.	1	2	8
I plan to tell at least one other person about my trip here.	1	2	8
I want to return here again.	1	2	8
I was disappointed with some aspects of this site.	1	2	8
My experience was not as good as I had hoped.	1	2	8
The employees were helpful.	1	2	8
The site was safe and secure.	1	2	8
This is a great recreation experience.	1	2	8
This trip is well worth the money I spent to take it.	1	2	8

These final questions are about your group and you. Please answer as many as you can. These are for descriptive purposes only and no individual information will be released.

16. What type of group were you with for this visit? (Please check all that apply)

____ Alone
____ Family
____ Friends
____ Organized group
____ Other (specify)_____

17. How long a visit will your group have today?

____ Less than one hour
____ 1-3 hours
____ 4-6 hours
____ Over 6 hours
____ Don't know

18. Your gender _____ Female _____ Male

19. Your age (years) _____

20. What was your last year of school? (Please circle one number)

Elementary School	Middle School	High School	College	Graduate School
1 2 3 4 5	6 7 8	9 10 11 12	13 14 15 16	17 18 19 20

21. What is your ethnic background?
_____Hispanic or Latino
_____Not Hispanic or Latino

What racial category or categories best describes you? (Select one or more)
_____American Indian or Alaska Native
_____Asian
_____Black or African American
_____Cambodian
_____Central American
_____Chicano
_____Chinese
_____Cuban
_____Filipino
_____Japanese
_____Korean
_____Mexican
_____Middle Eastern
_____Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
_____South American
_____Vietnamese
_____White
_____Other (specify)_____

22. What is your postal ZIP code? _____

23. What language do you speak most of the time?

_____ English _____ Spanish

_____ Other (specify)_____

What language do you read most of the time?

_____ English _____ Spanish

_____ Other (specify)_____

24. Place of birth (state and country) _____

I have lived in the U.S. _____ all my life _____ years

25. What is your annual household income (before taxes)?

_____ $9,999 or less	_____ $50,000 - $59,999
_____ $10,000 - $19,999	_____ $60,000 - $69,999
_____ $20,000 - $29,999	_____ $70,000 - $79,999
_____ $30,000 - $39,999	_____ $80,000 - $89,999
_____ $40,000 - $49,999	_____ $90,000 or more

Is there anything else we should know about your visit to this site?

Thank You So Much!
Enjoy your stay on your National Forest.

Appendix B

Cleveland National Forest

Southern California Planning Place Maps

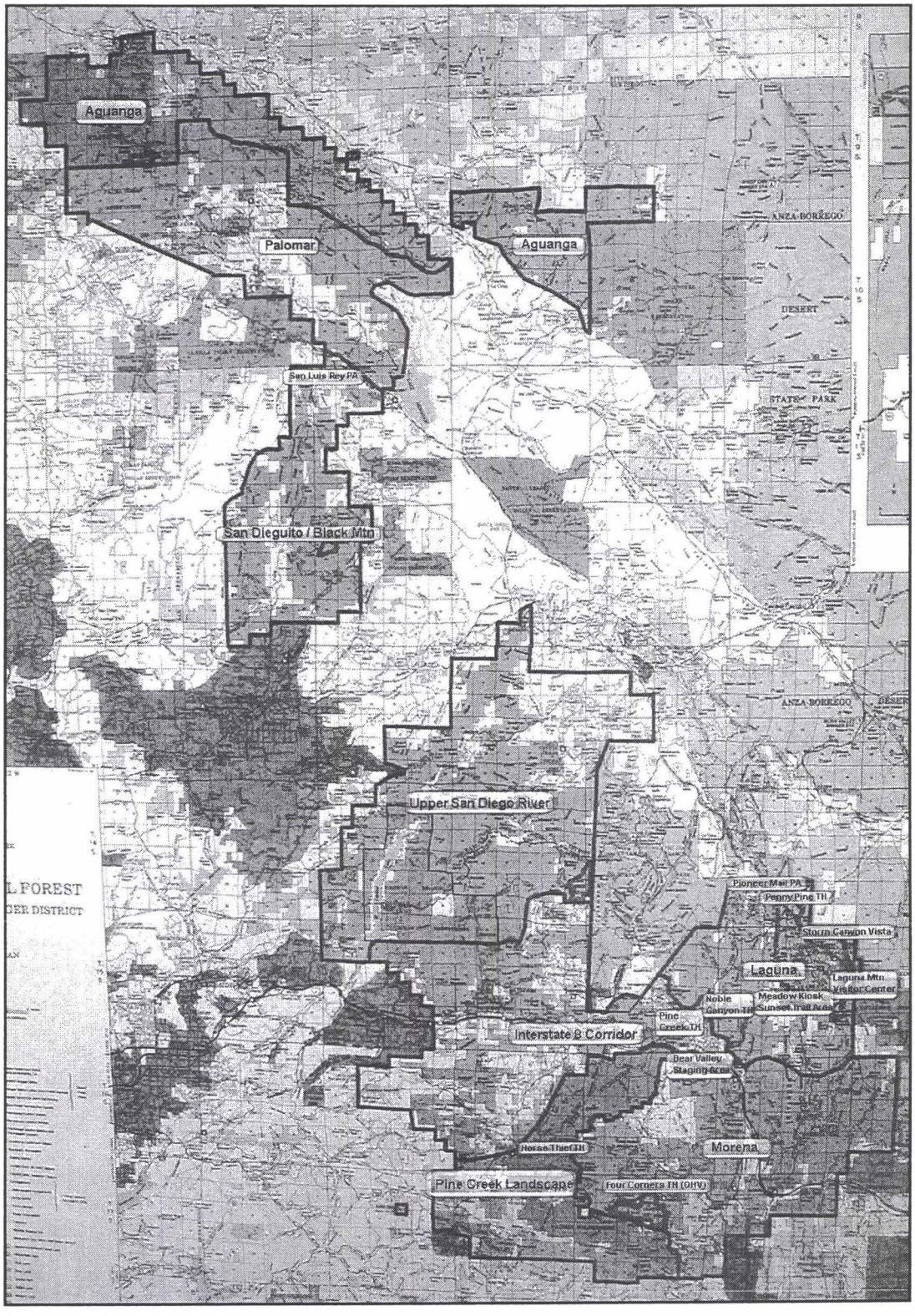

Figure 14. Cleveland National Forest, Palomar / Descanso Planning Places: Aguanga, Palomar, San Dieguito / Black Mtn, Upper San Diego River, Interstate 8 Corridor, Laguna, Pine Creek Landscape, and Morena (Internal Review Map as of 2/14/2003)

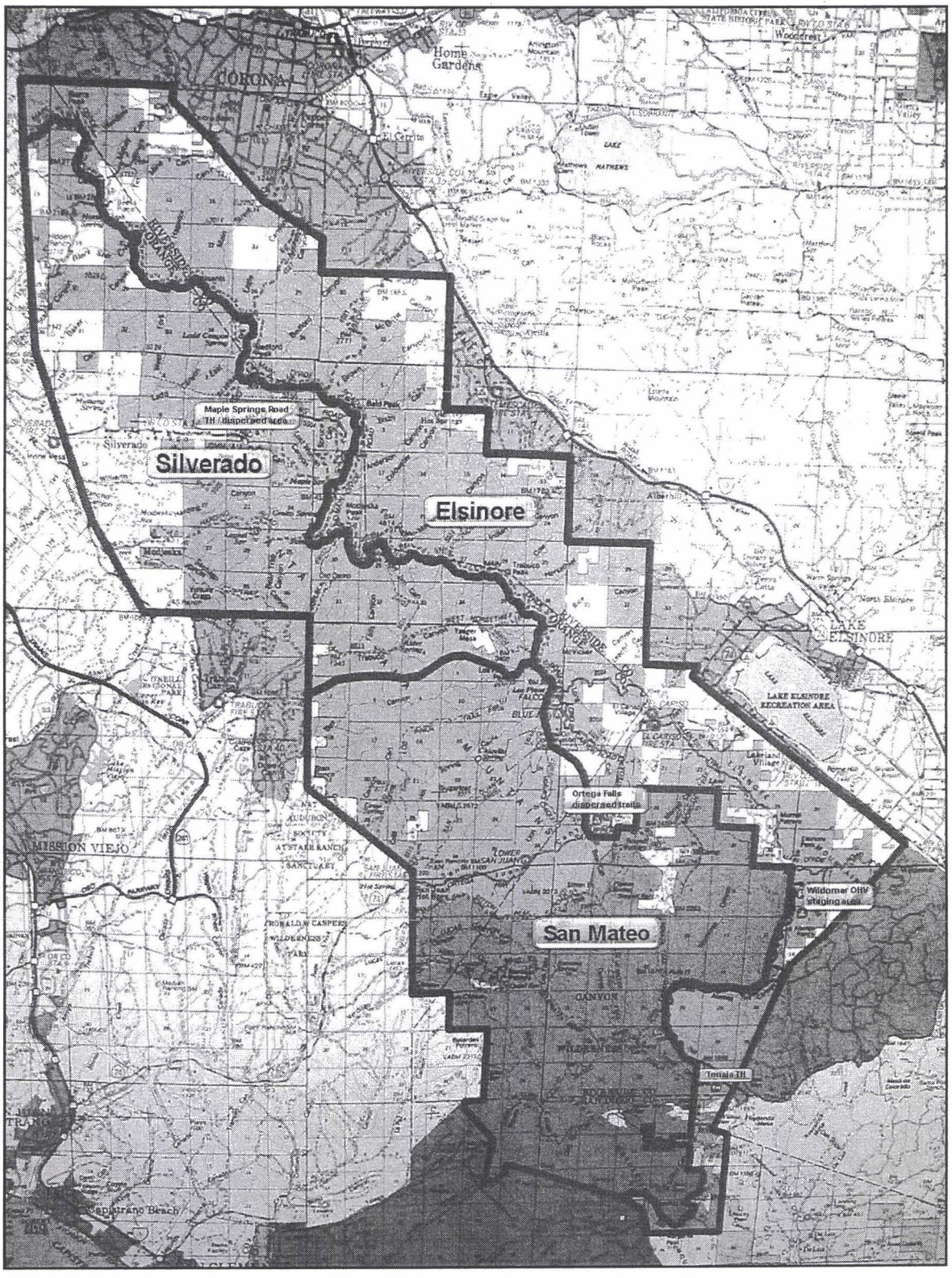

Figure 15. Cleveland National Forest, Trabuco Planning Places: Elsinore, San Mateo, and Silverado (Internal Review Map as of 2/14/2003)

Appendix C

Descriptive Statistics

Table 5. Descriptive Statistics for the Cleveland National Forest, Overall (n = 249)

	N	Mean	Median	Mode	Std. Dev	Range	Percentile		
							25th	50th	75th
Number times to this site past year	141	6.7	3	1	9.53	52	1	3	7.5
Number years to this site	129	8.9	5	1	9.27	40	2	5	12
Travel time to site (1 hour or more)	93	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.65	3	1	1.5	1.5
Times visited ANY NF day use site past year	144	9.5	5	2	12.10	99	3	5	11.75
Number of activities usually engage	245	4.2	4	3	2.75	14	2	4	6
Number activities today	227	1.2	1	1	0.56	4	1	1	1
Number of "kinds of information"	244	11.2	12	15	6.04	23	6	12	16
Number of items [Important - Very Important]	247	4.4	4	5	2.91	10	2	4	7
Number items [bothers a lot]	249	4.9	5	5	2.57	9	3	5	7
Number correct answers [Q14A-Q14D]	247	2.3	2	3	1.24	4	1	2	3
Age in years	239	40.5	39	40	12.38	68	31	39	48
Education	246	15.2	16	16	2.75	15	13	16	16
Number of years in US	39	18.5	17	14	12.60	41.8	8	17	30

Table 6. Descriptive Statistics for the Cleveland National Forest, Elsinore Planning Place (n = 37)

	N	Mean	Median	Mode	Std. Dev	Range	Percentile		
							25th	50th	75th
Number times to this site past year	20	5.2	5	2	3.59	12	2	5	7
Number years to this site	13	1.9	1	1	1.66	6	1	1	3
Travel time to site (1 hour or more)	8	1.4	1.5	1.5	0.33	1	1.1	1.5	1.5
Times visited ANY NF day use site past year	22	12.1	8	10	20.31	98	4	8	10
Number of activities usually engage	37	4.1	4	3	2.51	10	2	4	6
Number activities today	34	1.1	1	1	0.50	2	1	1	1
Number of "kinds of information"	37	10.9	12	17	5.32	19	6.5	12	15.5
Number of items [Important - Very Important]	36	5.3	5.5	0	3.16	10	3	5.5	8
Number items [bothers a lot]	37	4.4	5	6	2.83	9	1.5	5	6
Number correct answers [Q14A-Q14D]	37	1.8	2	2	1.18	4	1	2	3
Age in years	37	36.3	38	29	10.66	44	29	38	42.5
Education	37	15.4	15	16	2.95	13	13	15	18
Number of years in US	4	24.0	26	32	9.80	20	14	26	32

Table 7. Descriptive Statistics for the Cleveland National Forest, Laguna Planning Place (n = 101)

	N	Mean	Median	Mode	Std. Dev	Range	Percentile		
							25th	50th	75th
Number times to this site past year	52	6.9	3	1	9.34	40	1	3	9.5
Number years to this site	50	12.8	10	1	11.33	40	2	10	20
Travel time to site (1 hour or more)	42	1.6	1.5	1.5	0.55	3.5	1	1.5	2
Times visited ANY NF day use site past year	56	8.2	4	2	9.00	40	2	4	11
Number of activities usually engage	99	4.2	4	3	2.67	12	2	4	6
Number activities today	90	1.3	1	1	0.73	5	1	1	1
Number of "kinds of information"	99	11.1	11	12	5.95	23	6	11	15
Number of items [Important - Very Important]	101	4.7	5	7	2.86	10	3	5	7
Number items [bothers a lot]	101	5.6	6	6	2.40	9	5	6	7
Number correct answers [Q14A-Q14D]	100	2.4	3	3	1.23	4	2	3	3
Age in years	98	43.3	44	31	13.45	86	32	44	53.25
Education	98	15.6	16	16	2.45	20	14	16	17
Number of years in US	18	16.0	14	14	14.06	42	1.75	14	26.25

Table 8. Descriptive Statistics for the Cleveland National Forest, Palomar Planning Place (n = 25)									
	N	Mean	Median	Mode	Std. Dev	Range	Percentile		
							25th	50th	75th
Number times to this site past year	15	8.1	3	2	13.15	49	2	3	6
Number years to this site	13	13.8	10	10	8.72	24	8	10	25
Travel time to site (1 hour or more)	9	1.5	1.5	1	0.64	2	1	1.5	1.625
Times visited ANY NF day use site past year	8	9.5	3.5	1	16.54	49	1.5	3.5	7.5
Number of activities usually engage	25	5.2	5	3	3.00	10	3	5	8
Number activities today	22	1.1	1	1	0.43	2	1	1	1
Number of "kinds of information"	25	11.3	10	5	6.31	22	5.5	10	16
Number of items [Important - Very Important]	25	4.2	5	0	3.44	9	0	5	7
Number items [bothers a lot]	25	4.4	5	5	2.45	8	2.5	5	6
Number correct answers [Q14A-Q14D]	24	2.5	3	4	1.35	4	1.25	3	4
Age in years	22	37.1	36	20	12.89	42	26	36	46.5
Education	25	12.9	13	12	2.79	15	12	13	14
Number of years in US	4	25.5	27.5	9	12.23	29	13	27.5	36

Table 9. Descriptive Statistics for the Cleveland National Forest, Interstate 8 Corridor Planning Place (n = 47)

	N	Mean	Median	Mode	Std. Dev	Range	Percentile		
							25th	50th	75th
Number times to this site past year	31	5.0	2	2	6.11	24	1	2	7
Number years to this site	32	5.6	4	1	5.05	20	2.25	4	7
Travel time to site (1 hour or more)	20	1.4	1	1	0.71	3	1	1	1.5
Times visited ANY NF day use site past year	36	8.5	5	2	8.21	28	3	5	11.5
Number of activities usually engage	46	4.7	5	6	2.81	12	2.75	5	6
Number activities today	45	1.2	1	1	0.46	2	1	1	1
Number of "kinds of information"	46	12.2	13	13	6.47	23	8	13	17
Number of items [Important - Very Important]	46	3.5	3	2	2.42	10	2	3	5
Number items [bothers a lot]	47	4.8	5	5	2.27	9	4	5	6
Number correct answers [Q14A-Q14D]	47	2.3	2	3	1.30	4	1	2	3
Age in years	45	38.5	38	36	8.98	43	33.5	38	44.5
Education	47	15.8	16	16	2.56	9	14	16	17
Number of years in US	6	12.8	15	3	7.33	18	4.5	15	18.75

Appendix D

Additional Comments from Respondents

Comment

Thank you for studying it. Let's keep it beautiful!

Keep the trails open to mountain bikers, we are a good group

PCT signage is poor

We had a great ride!

We would like to see ranger led walks and programs return. We so enjoyed them in the 70's and early 80's

Used to hike a lot once a week with a group, but the past two years

Just passing thru--beautiful site

I love the Cleveland National Forest

Close the gates to motor vehicles

Very enjoyable

Wonderful place to be, more development means more people who bring trash and crap

Very peaceful, except for music!

one group was playing loud music

I hate a good time

The water level was very low. It would have been nice to at least hear the water

Thanks for having a wonderful place to get away!

Quit levying tax against us! Federal $ should be secured for improvement, upkeep etc. Site Development will destroy this area. Your pass targets mtn. bike enthusiast--So we fund (your general fund?) all of your development initiatives to restrict our specialized use are funded from our pockets taxation u/o Representation!

I'm not very knowledgeable about this site or what it has to offer as I'm from out of state and just tagging along a group of friends

An out house would be nice

Love the water pumps and created trails

Should be free to visit, it is open land!!

Use money from tags for rec.

We love it here

People drive too fast on 74, and constantly pulling over to let rampant speeders pass, motorcycles speed by on curves. This morning I saw a motorcycle accident (bad!). Just up the road I saw an officer giving a speeding ticket to a motorcyclist (first I have seen).

Needs resting area (shaded) and benches along the trail

Overall it was excellent. However, the trail was overgrown in a few places. Also I would love to see more mountain trails, and I would like mountain bikes to be allowed in wilderness areas. Trash cans needed.

Keep it mellow/needs trash cans. Extra plant/animal placards would be nice.

Thanks!!!

Your staff was very helpful and knowledgeable.

This site was chill

Shower or some type of faucets to rinse off body.

It was hard to find the money slot

Keep the public lands open for all recreational uses

Would like to see more OHV locations such as this

Can you please put a swimming pool

I love it

I was not aware that my off road bike could be a fire hazard. If the ranger had not pointed this out I would not have known. I would like info posted on vehicle restrictions.

There are far too few OHV areas in national forests of So. Cal that I know of.

Has always been one of my most favorite places to visit.

Post signs if you need to pay for the use of trails.

Less rules and regulations

Thanks

It might be a good idea to post what areas have recently been control burned--as we did not realize this site had been.

Knowing the area had been burned over at the visitor may have influenced my choice in what trails to hike.

It would be very enjoyable if there were some type of small track that off road riders could race on. The trails don't allow for much speed or hard, fast riding.

We have a good time every time we come up here.

I feel the extreme dryness affects our visit this year.

The drought is devastating.